

From: report@hannah.com
Sent: Wednesday, June 1, 2016 6:25 PM
To: DL Hannah
Subject: Hannah News Stories for Wednesday, June 1, 2016

Wednesday, June 1, 2016

IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

Today's Stories

- Senate Announces Sessions for Rest of 2016; Composite Schedule Included with Today's Report
- Ohio First State to Launch STABLE Accounts under Federal Law
- Federal Judge Extends Block on Planned Parenthood Defunding Bill
- Local Leaders, OhioMHAS Join for Recovery Summit
- OTA Convention Features Next Gen 9-1-1 Discussion
- Last Week of Session Sees Legislature Finish Work on 35 Bills
- Study Panel to Consider Dropout Recovery School Issues
- State Government Roundup: Governor; AG
- Campaign Corner: Mary Taylor
- People in the News: Buckeye Institute
- Ohio Digest: COTA Funds
- Campus Chronicle: Special Education Grant

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From: gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service [gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com]
Sent: Thursday, June 30, 2016 4:13 PM
To: Standard_Subscriber_misc_html@gongwer-oh.com
Subject: House & Senate Floor Reports



Senate Activity for Thursday, June 30, 2016

INTRODUCED

SB 339 ■ **MONTH DESIGNATION** (Tavares, C.) To designate the month of June as "Pride Month." En. 5.2299

House Activity for Thursday, June 30, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB 583 ■ **COLLECTIVE BARGAINING** (Becker, J.) To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation. Am. 9.81, 124.14, 124.15, 3345.31, 4117.03, 4117.04, 4117.05, 4117.09, 4117.10, 4117.11, 4121.03, 4121.121, 4121.69, and 5501.20

RESIGNATION ACCEPTED

Rep. Tim Brown, Republican, 3rd District, effective July 17.

Click the ■ after a bill number to track that bill and create email alerts on activity.

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From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Thursday, July 7, 2016 6:16 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Ohio Report, Thursday, July 7, 2016
Attachments: Jul7.htm; 160707dayplan.htm; Jul8Schedule.htm



Ohio Report for Thursday, July 7, 2016

Stakeholders Point To New Charter Laws As Closures Increase, ODE Denies All Sponsorship Applications

Medicaid Underspending Driven By Increased Enrollment In Expansion Program, Administration Says

November Ballot Won't Include Any Citizen-Initiated Amendments, Statutes; Some Groups Set Sights On 2017

High Court Set To Hear Two Death Penalty Cases, Along With Four Other Cases Next Week

June Revenue Down At Most Casinos, All Racinos

Cleveland, Akron To Join White House Mentorship Initiative

In Cincinnati, Trump Expands On Controversies; ODP Blasts Billionaire's Business Record

Court Briefs: Buckeye Institute Files Brief In 'Golden Week' Lawsuit; Former Mayor Legally Fired From Lottery Commission Post...

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Volume #85, Report #130 – Thursday, July 7, 2016

Stakeholders Point To New Charter Laws As Closures Increase, ODE Denies All Sponsorship Applications

In the wake of updated charter school laws, the list of buildings closing this summer is longer than ever and the Department of Education has declined to sponsor any new schools that submitted applications.

At the end of the fiscal year, 20 charter schools did not sign new sponsor contracts and will close their doors, according to ODE. Of those, 11 were given notice in January that their sponsors were dropping them, typically because of poor academic performance, while the other half closed voluntarily. (Closure List)

More than 100 other schools have shut down in the last five years, but this year's group is the largest since June 30, 2014 when 19 schools did not sign new contracts.

A handful of the schools that were given notice that their contracts wouldn't be renewed applied to ODE's Office of School Sponsorship, which can sponsor start-up schools and take over existing schools looking for new sponsors.

None of the 10 schools that sought new sponsorship were approved, however - a first for the department, according to application records from previous years. (Sponsorship Applicants)

Charter schools sponsors and supporters point to tighter closure and sponsorship laws (HB 2) as a cause for this year's stats.

Ron Adler, president of the Ohio Coalition for Quality Education, said it's likely that schools will continue to close in higher numbers each year because of sponsors' concerns about how their schools' state report card scores will impact their evaluations.

"I think that there are probably some schools being closed that probably need to be closed. However, I think sponsors today, with some of the criteria that has come through the Ohio Department of Education that has made it almost impossible and created penalties, they don't want to sponsor some schools," he said.

"We've got some sponsors that are very good at turning around schools and (ODE) has created such a fear factor that sponsors are hesitant for their own existence to help and improve the schools."

The new sponsor evaluations, which are detailed in the latest charter school legislation and overseen by ODE, factor in quality, compliance and academic performance.

Sponsors that don't score well in those areas could face losing their ability to continue sponsoring schools.

Sponsors have said they're prepared for poor showings in the performance category because of lower state test scores across the board. Unlike traditional schools, charters were not granted safe harbor from impacts related to report card results reflecting new standardized exams.

In addition to calling out lawmakers for failing to provide them with safe harbor, sponsors have also recently complained that it will be impossible to meet deadlines for producing compliance documentation that was requested by ODE as a result of the new laws. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 30, 2016)

"I think that House Bill 2 is being revered by some," Mr. Adler said in an interview. "I see it as all compliance, compliance, compliance. It is 106 pages of rules, regulations and mandates that just make it more difficult to operate and improve achievement."

Chad Aldis, vice president of Ohio policy and advocacy for the Thomas B. Fordham Institute, agreed that it is likely sponsors gave consideration to the new evaluations when making closure decisions this year.

But, he said he's hopeful that any needed tweaks can be made to both the laws and as the new procedures play out over the next few years.

"There are a lot of good charter schools and we wouldn't want to see them closed as a result of this and you also wouldn't want to see sponsors so afraid of the provisions that they won't open potentially new, strong, innovative schools that could really make a difference for kids," Mr. Aldis said.

"I think what we're in right now is a little bit of a correction phase and hopefully sponsors will have confidence in their decisions and continue to open schools when the school is likely to be successful."

Five sponsors in the state have plans to open 10 start-up schools for the 2016-17 school year, according to ODE. (Potential New Schools List)

ODE's Office of School Sponsorship will be evaluated with all other sponsors, but is not impacted by the new rating system that could prohibit a sponsor from taking on new schools or put a sponsor out of business.

However, the office took a more discerning approach this year when reviewing applications for taking over existing schools or aiding start-up operations.

"A top priority for the Ohio Department of Education is a strong system of accountability for all schools in our state, including charter schools and their sponsors," agency spokeswoman Brittany Halpin said. "Provisions in the recent charter school reform

legislation strengthen the department's ability to support high quality options for the state's students."

In the past, the department was required to sponsor any school that followed the application process correctly, but new laws allow it to deny schools that aren't meeting certain standards.

Mr. Aldis called the update that allowed it to decline all of this year's applications a "smart change."

"If (ODE) is going to sponsor schools, it should absolutely be able to determine whether the schools are performing well before it just takes one on," he said in an interview.

It's possible schools will continue to close at the same pace in coming years because House Bill 2 also put in place some guardrails to limit so-called "sponsor-hopping," Mr. Aldis said.

Updated laws prohibit charter schools from seeking new sponsorship if they don't meet fiscal management or performance requirements.

"The ability for lower performing schools to change sponsors is not what it used to be, so when you see the overall number of closures, some of those in the past might have gone on to a different sponsor and that can't happen now," he said.

Medicaid Underspending Driven By Increased Enrollment In Expansion Program, Administration Says

The Kasich administration credits an improving economy and a more accurate eligibility determination system with driving nearly \$1.3 billion in Medicaid underspending last fiscal year.

The Medicaid program finished the year spending about \$926 million less than expected from the General Revenue Fund, and nearly \$1.3 billion less than expected from all funds, according to the Governor's Office of Health Transformation.

The underspending continues a longtime trend in the program covering multiple administrations. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 6, 2016)

According to OHT, the program enrolled about 3 million Ohioans on an average monthly basis during fiscal year 2016, about 32,000 below projections. While the overall enrollment was below projections, the number of people enrolled in the expansion group, which is completely funded by federal dollars, increased by 26,000.

Meanwhile, the number of people enrolled in the traditional program, which is partially funded by the state, was 58,000 below the estimate, according to OHT.

The administration said part of this shift is due to an improving economy - as people make more money, they move out of traditional Medicaid and into the expansion group, which includes people making up to 138% of the federal poverty level.

OHT also credited a new and more accurate system to determine eligibility, which assigns new enrollees to the proper category and moves them off the program as their finances improve.

Total Medicaid spending from all funding sources was \$25.3 billion, of which nearly \$17 billion came through the General Revenue Fund.

The federal share of Medicaid spending last fiscal year was \$715 million, or 3.9%, below the original budget estimate, while the state's share was \$550 million, or 6.7%, below the original estimate, according to OHT.

In fiscal year 2015, the Department of Medicaid reported total Medicaid spending of \$1.9 billion below the original budget estimate.

That year, enrollment for the expansion group was more than 152,000 above the original estimate, while enrollment in the traditional program was 192,000 below estimate.

November Ballot Won't Include Any Citizen-Initiated Amendments, Statutes; Some Groups Set Sights On 2017

No citizen-initiated issues will appear on November's ballot, Secretary of State Jon Husted announced Thursday, a day after the deadline to file petitions for proposed constitutional amendments and initiated statutes.

A few high-profile efforts to reach the ballot were made this year, including two related to medical marijuana and one related to prescription drug prices, but none of those issues found a place on the ballot in November.

Backers of an initiated statute designed to lower the cost of prescription drugs will aim for 2017, said Michael Weinstein, president of the California-based AIDS Healthcare Foundation, which supported the measure.

Supporters of the proposal, called the Ohio Drug Price Relief Act, initially gathered enough signatures to bring it before the legislature, where no action was taken, but a review of those petitions by the secretary of state's office delayed the collection of signatures, prompting lawsuits by the initiated statute's supporters in state and federal courts. Both cases were dismissed after Mr. Husted transmitted the proposal to the General Assembly. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, April 19, 2016)

In an email, Mr. Weinstein said the proposal will have to wait for next year after the delays.

"We will go for 2017," he said. "We are collecting and will submit sufficient signatures within the 90 days allowed."

Another lawsuit, filed by industry groups challenging the petition signatures gathered for the initiated statute, is ongoing. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 8, 2016)

A proposal dealing with lawmaker lobbying, called Ethics First - You Decide Ohio, also made a push for the ballot. The Ballot Board divided the issue into three different issues, a decision the amendment's backers challenged in the Ohio Supreme Court. The Court dismissed that challenge in May. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

Ronald Alban, one of the proposal's backers, said in an email that they have no intention of moving forward with the proposal.

Two citizen-initiated proposals to legalize medical marijuana, one backed by the Washington-based Marijuana Policy Project and the other by a group called Grassroots Ohio, will also not appear on the ballot after an early push in the wake of last year's failed Issue 3 vote.

The MPP-backed Ohioans for Medical Marijuana group announced it would not pursue the ballot after lawmakers passed a bill (HB 523) in May creating a medical marijuana system. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 31, 2016)

Backers of Grassroots Ohio have said they are pushing forward with their proposal, which would create a constitutional right to possess marijuana for a medical purpose, with an eye on the 2017 ballot.

High Court Set To Hear Two Death Penalty Cases, Along With Four Other Cases Next Week

The Ohio Supreme Court will hear appeals in two death penalty cases next week.

In one case, an Akron man convicted of the 2011 murders of his children's mother and her boyfriend plans to raise 14 legal claims in appealing both his sentence and conviction.

David Spaulding, who was sentenced to death for the 2011 murder of Erica Singleton and Ernest Thomas, will argue that he received ineffective legal counsel because both of his attorneys were not present for all proceedings in the case, that a witness' statement should have been suppressed and that he was denied legal counsel during interrogation.

Ms. Singleton obtained a civil protection order against Mr. Spaulding on Dec. 1, 2011, following a string of domestic violence incidents. However, two weeks later, Mr. Spaulding showed up at the place Ms. Singleton was staying with Mr. Thomas. He first shot another tenant, Patrick Griffin, who was paralyzed by the shooting, before killing Ms. Singleton and Mr. Thomas in their driveway.

In January 2013, a jury convicted Mr. Spaulding of aggravated murder, attempted murder and violation of a protection order.

In the second case, a Medina County man will argue that seven claims of legal and procedural errors should afford him a new trial.

Steven Cepec will claim that, among other issues, he was prejudiced by statements in court about a prior burglary conviction, that the trial court should have held a hearing on the competency of a witness and that his constitutional rights were violated because police continued to question him after he asked for a lawyer.

Mr. Cepec was convicted of murder, aggravated robbery and aggravated burglary following the 2010 death of Frank Munz, who was found bludgeoned with a hammer and strangled with a lamp cord.

Police arrived on the scene while Mr. Cepec was still in the home after receiving a call from Mr. Munz's nephew, Paul Munz, whose testimony at trial was called into question in the appeal. Upon arrival by the police, Mr. Cepec fled on foot. He was later found nearby hiding under a bush, the court reported.

The high court will hear four other cases next week:

- In *re Application of Buckeye Wind*, the high court will hear arguments from Champaign County residents that a hearing should be held on amended construction plans for the state's first wind-powered generation facility. The Power Siting Board approved a construction application in 2010 and the developer proposed revision to the plans in 2013.
- In *Disciplinary Counsel v. Joltin*, disciplinary counsel will object to the professional conduct board's proposed sanctions on a Canfield attorney found to have mishandled client funds, mismanaged his client trust account and not fully cooperated with the investigation. The professional conduct board proposed a sanction of two years, with 18 months stayed under certain conditions. However, disciplinary counsel will argue for an indefinite suspension.
- In *Defiance County v. Testa*, the court will consider whether the tax commissioner lawfully denied a Defiance County commissioner's request to transfer \$2.5 million from the county landfill fund to pay for emergency repairs to the county courthouse and to make renovations to meet federal Americans with Disabilities Act requirements.
- In *Foley v. University of Dayton*, the court will decide what the statute of limitations is for filing a negligent misidentification claim and whether absolute privilege or qualified privilege shield the defendants' statements to law enforcement.

June Revenue Down At Most Casinos, All Racinos

Overall revenue at Ohio's four casinos was down in June, with three of them seeing decreases from May, according to the Casino Control Commission.

The four casinos took in \$62.9 million in revenue in June, down from \$66.5 million in May and the lowest total of the year so far, according to revenue reports. Last June, the casinos brought in \$63.5 million, the lowest monthly total of the year.

Video lottery terminals at the state's racinos brought in a total of \$70.7 million in June, down from \$78.2 million in May. They ended the fiscal year with nearly \$869 million in revenue, up from \$773 million in fiscal year 2015. (VLT reports)

JACK Cleveland was the only Ohio casino to see an uptick in revenue in June, bringing in \$16.3 million compared to just over \$16 million in May, according to revenue reports. The casino was closed for 40 hours in May while it rebranded from Horseshoe Cleveland to JACK Cleveland.

Of JACK Cleveland's revenue, \$8.7 million came from table games, while \$7.6 came from slot machines, according to the report. The casino's monthly revenue was up nearly \$2 million from \$14.4 million in June 2015.

JACK Cincinnati saw the biggest drop in revenue in June, bringing in \$14.1 million compared to \$16.2 million the month before. JACK Cincinnati was closed for 40 hours in June to rebrand from Horseshoe Cincinnati. Of its revenue in June, \$9.4 million came from slot machines and \$4.6 million came from table games. Last June, the casino brought in \$16.1 million.

Hollywood Columbus saw revenue drop by more than \$860,000, falling from nearly \$17.8 million in May to more than \$16.9 million in June. Slot machines accounted for \$11.8 million in revenue, while table games accounted for \$5.1 million. Last June, the casino's revenue was \$16.4 million.

Hollywood Toledo saw revenue drop nearly \$900,000 to \$15.6 million in June, with more than \$13 million coming from slot machines and \$2.6 million coming from table games. Last June, the casino took in \$16.6 million.

Racinos: VLT revenue at all seven of the states racinos declined from May to June, with Scioto Downs seeing the largest decrease, dropping nearly \$1.7 million from just under \$13.5 million in May to just under \$11.8 million in June.

At Hard Rock Rocksino Northfield Park, revenue fell more than \$1.5 million to \$17.9 million in June, while at Miami Valley Gaming it fell by nearly \$1.5 million to \$10.8 million.

Revenue at JACK Thistledown Racino fell by more than \$941,000 to \$9.1 million. At Hollywood Mahoning Valley Race Course, it fell by nearly \$806,000 to \$7.6 million. Revenue at Hollywood Gaming Dayton Raceway fell more than \$693,000 to just under \$7 million in June, and revenue at Belterra Park fell more than \$457,000 to \$6.4 million.

Cleveland, Akron To Join White House Mentorship Initiative

U.S. Sen Sherrod Brown will be joined by administration officials this week in Northeast Ohio to expand an initiative that aims to provide mentoring and opportunities for boys and young men of color.

My Brother's Keeper, a program launched by President Obama in 2014, is coming to Akron and Cleveland Friday, the Avon Democrat announced in a Thursday call with reporters.

They will join Dayton, Columbus, Massillon, East Cleveland and Berea in becoming MBK communities that provide mentorship and resources. Sen. Brown said Cincinnati is also preparing to take part in the initiative.

"It's up to all of us to ensure that all our children - regardless of their zip code or the color of their skin - have the opportunity to succeed," he said. "And I hope more cities across our state will accept the My Brother's Keeper Challenge, and work toward that goal."

Nearly 250 communities have agreed to be part of the MBK Challenge, said Broderick Johnson, chair of president's MBK Task Force. Partnerships in those communities have resulted in more than \$600 million in grants and in-kind resources.

One of the latest drives of the initiative is to link sixth and ninth graders with mentors who can provide support and encouragement to go to school and work toward graduation, he said. Cleveland will be among 30 communities in the country that will provide those mentors focused on reducing chronic absences from school.

Federal agencies also recently partnered to launch the Second Chance Pell pilot program under the MBK umbrella, Mr. Johnson said. It allows 67 colleges and universities - including Ashland University - to provide Pell Grants to 12,000 inmates.

"We're working to make sure the various departments of the federal government that are part of the MBK Task Force continue to look at the programs they have and collaborate on programs to make sure that we can better target federal resources and partnerships with the private sector so that every child in this country has a clear pathway to success, really from crib through college and career," he said during the call.

MBK Mentor Quinn Howard said the program is working in Dayton to provide positive role models for young men of color.

The starting point for Dayton's mentorship program is to help youth "see themselves as contributors to the community," he said.

"Young men in our community need to see positive role models that they can emulate," Mr. Howard said. "It is important not only to provide young men with direction and guidance but to also build nurturing relationships through listening and understanding."

Mentoring young men with basic fundamental values will hopefully provide them with a sense of purpose that can help can help them succeed in life."

In Cincinnati, Trump Expands On Controversies; ODP Blasts Billionaire's Business Record

Before Donald Trump took the stage in Cincinnati Wednesday evening, he was expected to use the speech to hammer Hillary Clinton over recent events pertaining to her use of a private email server.

Instead, he spent most of his time stoking further controversy over his recent comments on Saddam Hussein and doubling down in his defense of an image he tweeted that has been deemed to be anti-Semitic.

The GOP presumptive nominee did strike out at Ms. Clinton in his stream-of-consciousness remarks, deriding an FBI recommendation that she not be charged and, in a tangent, likening her to a mosquito when one landed on his lectern.

"It's a disgrace," he said. "She has got bad judgment."

But the candidate spent more than two-thirds of his more than one-hour long speech seeking to explain his own controversies in recent days, effectively fanning the media attention those remarks have received.

That includes controversy over Mr. Trump's Saturday tweet featuring a picture of Ms. Clinton against a backdrop of dollar bills with a six-pointed star containing the text "Most corrupt politician ever."

The tweet drew criticism from those contending the graphic is rooted in anti-Semitism, but Mr. Trump has since said the star is less a Star of David and more of a "sheriff's badge" and that it is the media, not his campaign, that is being prejudicial.

"(The media's) profiling," he told the Sharonville crowd. "Not us. Because why are they bringing this up?"

Mr. Trump, in his most expansive remarks on the topic yet, said he was disappointed his staff took down the tweet.

He also expanded on his prior remarks at a Tuesday rally and in interviews in which he seemingly praised Saddam Hussein for dispatching terrorists. House Speaker Paul Ryan and others have criticized the remarks.

In his comments Wednesday, Mr. Trump said it was inaccurate to characterize his comments as "praise" for the fallen dictator.

"I said Saddam Hussein is a bad man...but he did one thing well: he killed terrorists," Mr. Trump said. "I wake up and turn on the television: 'Donald Trump loves Saddam Hussein.' That's not what I said."

In a one-on-one interview with the Cincinnati Enquirer, Mr. Trump said, "That's not praising Saddam Hussein. I would say maybe it's the opposite."

The interview seemingly led a Trump spokeswoman to attempt to "dress down" the reporter for "disrespectful questioning," according to tweets of the exchange from the journalist.

"I said Trump's the GOP candidate for president and tough questions are part of the job," the reporter tweeted. "(Trump press secretary Hope Hicks) said as a candidate he deserves respect."

Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich, a potential VP pick, also appeared at the rally, though his appearance was overshadowed in media reports by Mr. Trump's speech.

He accused the Clintons of corruption and questioned the timing of the recent FBI announcement. He also took a swipe at Gov. John Kasich, who has declined to endorse the billionaire, saying that although the governor "is a good friend of mine, it's about time he got on the Trump bandwagon."

Democrats: State Party Chairman David Pepper and Columbus City Councilmember Jaiza Page held a press conference on the steps of Columbus City Hall Thursday, responding to Mr. Trump's remarks and seeking to cast him as a failed businessman.

Mr. Pepper contrasted Mr. Trump's Cincinnati appearance with Ms. Clinton's Ohio visit last week, saying of Mr. Trump's speech "I don't even know how to characterize what a disturbing speech it was." (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 27, 2016)

Organized by the Clinton campaign, the event was the latest in a line of attacks from Clinton supporters on Mr. Trump's business dealings in Atlantic City, which they contend includes bankruptcies, failures to pay contractors and the loss of hundreds of jobs.

Mr. Trump has promised to bring the same level of success to running the country as he has to his business ventures.

"(In Atlantic City,) Trump came out on top but the city didn't," Mr. Pepper said. "It's not just Atlantic City. This is a pattern over the years all around the country.... We just can't let Donald Trump do to Ohio, do to Columbus, what he did to Atlantic City and what he's done to innocent Americans all over the state through his business actions and scams."

Court Briefs: Buckeye Institute Files Brief In 'Golden Week' Lawsuit; Former Mayor Legally Fired From Lottery Commission Post...

The Buckeye Institute has joined the battle over whether Ohioans should have a five-day window in which they can register to vote and cast ballots on the same day.

The group has filed a brief in the U.S. Sixth District Court of Appeals supporting Secretary of State Jon Husted's challenge to a lower court ruling that found the elimination of "Golden Week" to be a violation of the Voting Rights Act. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 24, 2016)

U.S. District Court Judge Michael Watson found that the elimination of Golden Week disproportionately impacted black voters in Ohio.

The Buckeye Institute, however, challenged that finding in its brief.

"The fact that African Americans previously used Golden Week at slightly higher rates does not suggest that they will somehow stop participating under the new law. All the minority voters who voted in Golden Week are ready and able to vote in the current four-week period, and there is no evidence suggesting they will not avail themselves of that broad opportunity," it reads.

Representing The Buckeye Institute in the case is Michael Carvin, an election and appellate law expert with the global Jones Day law firm.

"Plaintiffs argue that a federal law that has been on the books for 34 years suddenly requires Ohio to extend its already generous early voting and requires Ohio to permit same-day registration. The law does no such things," Mr. Carvin said in a statement. "Nor does it invalidate the laws of the 40 states that offer fewer voting days than Ohio."

Firing: The Court of Claims has found that former Seven Hills Mayor David Bentkowski was legally terminated from his post at the Lottery Commission.

Mr. Bentkowski, who was terminated in November 2012, alleged that his supervisor and the lottery's director of human resources engaged in discriminatory practices. He claimed Elizabeth Popadiuk made discriminatory remarks about Lottery Commission employees, which she denied, the high court reported.

Court of Claims Judge Patrick McGrath found that Mr. Bentkowski failed to prove that his firing was payback for claiming the employer was engaged in discriminating practices.

Pro Bono Work: Ohio attorneys provided pro bono work in 2015 to the tune of \$10.3 million, the Ohio Legal Assistance Foundation and the Ohio Supreme Court reported Thursday.

More than 4,300 attorneys reported pro bono activity in 2015, accounting for about 76,300 hours of free legal service.

Another \$406,000 was donated to organizations that provide legal services to low-income Ohioans.

"We were excited that the number of attorneys who voluntarily reported their pro bono work more than doubled from last year," OLAF's Pro Bono and Communications Director Jane Taylor said in a statement. "I believe these results reflect the Court's continuing emphasis on access to justice for all and its strong commitment to ensuring that every Ohioan can get legal help, regardless of income."

Capitol Scene: Fadel Appointed Ohio Insurance Institute President

Longtime Ohio Insurance Institute staffer Dean Fadel will serve as the association's newest president, OII Board Chairman Tim Timmel announced Thursday.

Mr. Fadel, who has been with OII since 1988 and currently serves as its vice president of government relations, will transition to the new position over the next few weeks, according to the board.

He'll replace President Dan Kelso, who recently announced retirement plans. Mr. Kelso had led the association since 1989, when it merged with the Insurance Federation of Ohio, which he had overseen since 1977.

"We're confident that the association will continue making great strides on behalf of its members, Ohio's property/casualty (P/C) insurance companies, with a focus on maintaining the stable, affordable insurance environment that Ohio consumers have experienced for decades," Mr. Timmel said of the transition.

Supplemental Agency Calendar Wednesday, July 13

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, July 8

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Board of Building Standards, Division of Industrial Compliance, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room, Reynoldsburg, 10 a.m. (The Code Committee will meet immediately after the full board.)

State Emergency Response Commission, 2855 W. Dublin-Granville Rd., Columbus, 1:15 p.m.

Event Planner

Rep. Bill Reineke (R-Tiffin) golf outing fundraiser, Mohawk Golf and Country Club, 4399 S. State Route 231, Tiffin, 8:30 a.m., (8:30am Light Breakfast and Registration; 10:00am Shotgun Start. Major Sponsor: \$2,500; Registration Sponsor: \$1,500; Scoreboard Sponsor: \$750; Foursome: \$600; Driving Range Sponsor: \$500; Beverage Cart Sponsor: \$250; Individual Golfer: \$175; Hole Sponsor: \$150 to Friends of Bill Reineke)
Summer Fridays at the Statehouse concert, West Steps, Statehouse, Columbus, 12 p.m., (RMT)

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 7/8/2016

Monday, July 11

Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 466-4086), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 1:30 p.m.


Tuesday, July 12

Senate Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Seitz, B., 466-8068), Finance Hearing Rm., 1 p.m.

- Confirmation hearings on governor's appointments of Asim Haque and Howard Petricoff, Public Utilities Commission of Ohio

Thursday, July 21

Joint Medicaid Oversight Committee (Committee Record) (Chr. Burke, D., 466-1731), Senate Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.

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Ohio Report for Monday, August 1, 2016

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Volume #85, Report #147 -- Monday, August 1, 2016
Following JCARR Discussion, Dietitians, ODA To Continue Talks On Senior Food Programs

Dietitians argued Monday that current and pending administrative rules could impair nutrient adequacy and lack adequate food safety guidelines for senior citizens.

Representatives of the Ohio Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics told the Joint Committee on Agency Rule and Review their concerns have not been completely addressed by rule changes put forth by the Department of Aging. (Agenda)

At the same time, they thanked the department for taking their feedback into account, even if all their proposed changes were not adopted during the rulemaking process.

"We're not going to let this go," OAND State Policy Representative Pat McKnight said. "We'll meet with the department and go over these (issues) but we just wanted to make you all aware this issue is not solved."

In the end, JCARR members did not act on the rule, which allows it to proceed toward implementation.

Following a "productive" meeting with the department last week, interested parties are next scheduled to meet in six months to continue the discussion, Ms. McKnight said. But at the urging of Rep. Cheryl Grossman (R-Grove City), ODA Policy Development Manager Tom Simmons said the department would be agreeable to moving that meeting up to take place within two months.

The testimony came in response to a rule package including 19 proposed rules and 18 other rules to be rescinded pertaining to nutrition programs under the Older Americans Act. The rules would pertain to AAA providers, which include local area aging agencies.

Specifically, the groups are concerned with Rule 173-4-5 and Rule 173-4-5.2, which establish general requirements for nutrition projects and home-delivered meal projects respectively.

Part of the concern centers on the one-third federal dietary reference intake for meals, which requires a minimum of one-third of one's meals provided through OAA funding meet nutritional requirements. Ms. McKnight said the new rule along with existing federal law does not provide enough information to ensure the one-third requirement is met. She said it also prohibits the use of leader nutrients, which dietitians had formerly used as a workaround to meet those requirements.

"It's not that the dietitian wouldn't want to do it," she said of compliance. "There is no way he or she could do it because the data's simply not available."

Ms. McKnight also contended that the new rules include no standards for non-therapeutic menus - healthy diets not tailored to a specific patient. More providers, she said, are using such menus to cut down on their clients' intake of carbs or sodium. And she questioned the department's claim that it has no ability to develop or enforce food safety standards for such providers.

Mr. Simmons said the department lacks jurisdiction in modifying the federal OAA. But he said the department is committed to having an ongoing dialogue with stakeholders.

"The number one goal of our entire project is to remove the overbearing regulation within these rules and with that make it easier to do business," Mr. Simmons said.

OAND State Regulatory Specialist Kay Mavko said the group plans to continue to engage the department and lawmakers on these issues.

"We are committed to working on this," Ms. Mavko said. "We don't want to let it go. We realize the department is limited in what it has the authority to do and what the rulemaking process allows it to do, but we still have some concerns."

State Still Seeking Lethal Drugs With Next Execution Set For January; Lawmakers Look To Alternatives

Ohio's next scheduled execution is now less than six months away, yet the state hasn't been able to obtain at least one drug typically used in the lethal injection process since 2013.

The state is still trying to acquire drugs used to carry out executions, according to JoEllen Smith, a spokeswoman for the Department of Rehabilitation and Corrections.

"DRC continues to seek all legal means to obtain the drugs necessary to carry out court ordered executions," she said. "This process has included multiple options."

Without the drugs necessary, the state could be forced to again delay the execution of Ronald Phillips, who was convicted of the 1993 murder of a 3-year-old girl. He is one of 26 people scheduled to be executed by the state in the coming years.

Mr. Phillips has had several execution dates, the most recent of which was Jan. 21, 2016. He had a 2014 execution date that was delayed after the botched execution of Dennis McGuire, who gasped for air at times over a 25-minute process carried out for the first time in Ohio with a two-drug cocktail.

That concoction - a mixture of midazolam, a sedative, and hydromorphone, a narcotic painkiller - was used for the first time because in the fall of 2013 European

pharmaceutical companies blocked the sale of pentobarbital, which was previously used in the lethal injection process.

In the wake of Mr. McGuire's execution - which the state said caused no pain - a federal judge in May 2014 issued a moratorium on the death penalty in Ohio, which was later extended until Jan 15, 2015.

Shortly before the moratorium expired, the state announced that it would abandon the use of the two-drug mixture and instead use thiopental sodium, which was utilized in executions from 1999 to 2011.

However, in October, the state announced that it was again delaying all executions, with 2017 as the earliest date. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, October 20, 2015)

Gov. John Kasich also signed legislation (HB663, 130th General Assembly) in December 2014 to shield the identities of execution-drug makers.

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) laid blame for the state's inability to secure the drugs necessary to carry out an execution at the feet of the administration of President Barack Obama.

"The Obama administration chooses not to enforce marijuana laws, which then lead to states legalizing medical marijuana," he said. "Strangely enough they go beyond what they are authorized to do relative to execution drugs."

Nonetheless, he expressed hope that once a new administration takes office on Jan. 20, it will make it easier to secure drugs necessary to carry out executions.

Current state law allows for executions to be carried out only through lethal injection. However, one panel led by Sen. Coley is exploring alternate forms of execution.

The Joint Legislative Study Committee on Victims' Rights in March heard testimony from Matt Kanai, general counsel for the law enforcement division in the attorney general's office, on ways other states are dealing with the lack of lethal injection drugs. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 10, 2016)

Sen. Coley said he is intrigued by nitrogen hypoxia as a form of execution, which Oklahoma has recently added as an option to carry out the death penalty.

He said the death would be similar to that caused by a decompressed plane cabin and added he believes it would not be deemed cruel or unusual by the courts. However, he said he would prefer to let the issue work its way through the justice system, which could take two to four years, before moving forward with it as a form of execution in Ohio.

The abolishment of the death penalty, though, is not on the table for Sen. Coley.

"The one great thing about the death penalty is there is zero recidivism," he said. "There are truly evil people in this world and it's our duty to eradicate them from the face of the planet. The death penalty has been an effective tool to that end."

However, Abe Bonowitz, communications director of Ohioans to Stop Executions, said the state should follow the lead of others and abolish the death penalty.

"We have a system that is blatantly unfair and has all kinds of issues with it," he said.

"The trends with the death penalty are away from it across the country and in Ohio fewer counties are using it," he added.

As for Mr. Phillips' scheduled execution, Sen. Coley said he's been led to believe that it can still be carried out.

"From everything that I've heard from the director, right now they believe it can be," he said. "They still have time."

Trump, Clinton At Odds During Columbus Campaign Stops

Donald Trump began his Columbus appearance Monday by blasting a local fire marshal for turning away "thousands" of his supporters for political reasons.

Before taking the stage at the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Mr. Trump made a brief surprise appearance to media gathered outside the room, according to various reports.

There he claimed there were thousands of people outside until they were turned away "for political reasons" by the fire marshal. Several media reports placed the number closer to hundreds.

"So we have a thousand people in there," Mr. Trump said, according to video. "The fire marshal said he's not allowed to allow any more, even though the building holds many thousands of people, so I just want to tell you that."

The perceived slight was the first thing Mr. Trump mentioned upon taking the mic. From there, he segued into terrorism, the border, trade, and his desire to see a ballroom constructed at the White House.

His appearance came one day after Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton and her VP pick Sen. Tim Kaine appeared in Columbus, where Ms. Clinton labeled Mr. Trump "a serious threat to our democracy."

With the event billed as a town hall, Mr. Trump fielded three questions on topics including healthcare, regulation on small businesses, and the heroin epidemic.

He pinned Ohio's job loss on President Bill Clinton, saying that the state lost one in three manufacturing jobs since the signing of NAFTA, and accused Ms. Clinton of being beholden to large donors.

"We are going to turn this state into a manufacturing behemoth," he said. "We are going to bring your jobs back, we're going to bring your companies back."

Between his usual attacks on illegal immigrants and the media, he said he's raised \$35.8 million in the last month from more than 500,000 donors and added that if he'd had two more days to campaign for the primary he - and not Gov. John Kasich - would have won the Buckeye State, which he lost by 11 points. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 15, 2016)

Mr. Trump did not mention his criticism of a Muslim couple - Khizr and Ghazala Khan - which GOP leaders have rebuked in recent days. Ohio veterans, in a Monday morning conference call organized by the Clinton campaign, called upon Mr. Trump to apologize for those attacks.

The Khans criticized the businessman during a speech at the Democratic National Convention, while describing the death of their son, a U.S. Army captain killed in Iraq. Mr. Trump spent days afterward blasting the couple. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 29, 2016)

As attacks continue to volley between Mr. Trump and the Khans, Republican leaders - including House Speaker Paul Ryan and Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell - sought to distance themselves from Mr. Trump's remarks. GOP VP candidate Mike Pence, meanwhile, issued a statement saying he and Mr. Trump believe the Khans and their son "should be cherished by every American."

"Donald Trump does not understand the experience of our military families or our veterans," said former Democratic lawmaker and Air Force veteran Connie Pillich. "He tries to portray himself as strong and brash, but there is nothing strong or powerful about insulting the family of a fallen soldier."

Air Force Reserve member Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) said "words do matter... and Donald Trump just doesn't get it."

"It's very clear from his remarks about John McCain and now Capt. Khan that he doesn't understand the type of sacrifices the men and women in uniform make for our country," he said. "The suffering and pain and struggle that these families go through on a daily basis are just unspeakable and to make light of it, to now attack this family I think is very indicative of the type of presidency he will run."

Republicans have also steered clear of the remarks, with Gov. John Kasich tweeting in his most recent disagreement with Mr. Trump: "There's only one way to talk about Gold Star parents: With honor and respect. Capt. Khan is a hero. Together we should pray for his family."

Ms. Clinton has likewise criticized the businessman for those attacks. During her Columbus appearance, she told the crowd "it's going to be up to all of us to repudiate" such attacks.

Ms. Clinton's latest Columbus appearance marked the culmination of her three-day "Stronger Together" bus tour of Pennsylvania and Ohio. There Ms. Clinton questioned Mr. Trump's business acumen and outlined her plan to invest in jobs during her first 100 days in office.

She pushed for more support for small businesses and asked rhetorically what would have happened if her father, who made draperies, had fulfilled his contractual obligations only for someone like Mr. Trump to refuse to pay for the product.

"To person after person and business after business, Donald Trump said, 'I don't care,'" Ms. Clinton said. "It's not because he couldn't pay them. He wouldn't pay them. He drove businesses into bankruptcy in addition to taking bankruptcy himself six times. My friends, that's not how we do business in America.

"He makes dress shirts in China, not Brooklyn, New York," she continued. "He makes furniture in Turkey, not Cleveland, Ohio. He makes barware in Slovenia, not Jackson, Ohio. And he goes around saying he wants to put America first and American workers first."

The campaign continues seizing upon news from recent days that Mr. Trump recently applied for dozens of H-2B visas to fill staff positions at his Palm Beach Mar-a-Lago resort and his Jupiter, Fla., golf club with foreign workers.

"Shame on you, Donald Trump," Ms. Clinton said. "Let's cut through all the hype and rhetoric and understand that we're dealing with somebody who has a history of stiffing people, making things somewhere else besides America, and whenever possible, hiring foreign workers."

Bump: Ms. Clinton appears to have received a polling boost following the Democratic National Convention last week. A CBS News July 29-31 poll showed her leading Mr. Trump nationally 47-41%.

The pair were virtually tied in the same poll last week following the Republican National Convention. When including Libertarian candidate Gary Johnson, Ms. Clinton leads Mr. Trump 43-38%, followed by Mr. Johnson at 10%.

Mr. Trump had previously seen a post-RNC bump in some polls conducted last week. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 26, 2016)

Endorsement: The Ohio Right to Life PAC on Monday announced its endorsement of Mr. Trump and a handful of candidates for other offices.

"Our mission is to protect the sanctity of human life, and right now there is no ticket more threatening to that mission than that of Hillary Clinton and Tim Kaine," ORTL President Mike Gonidakis said. "Many times over, Mr. Trump has committed himself to appointing pro-life Supreme Court Justices, signing the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, and protecting religious liberty."

Mr. Trump has faced questioned on his views on abortion. In 1999, he said he was "very pro-choice," although he said his opinion has since "evolved." Currently anti-abortion, he caught flack earlier this year, even from anti-abortion groups, for suggesting in an MSNBC interview "there has to be some form of punishment" for women who obtain an abortion. He later walked back that comment.

GOP Lawmakers Tout Model Suicide Prevention Legislation, Contemplate Charter School Industry Structures At ALEC Event

Legislation providing suicide prevention tools to colleges and universities that originated in the Ohio House is on course to be copied by other states.

Rep. Marlene Anielski (R-Walton Hills) last week attended the American Legislative Exchange Council's annual meeting to promote her resolution that the organization has approved as model legislation.

The controversial annual ALEC meeting typically draws conservative lawmakers to draft and consider bills that are oftentimes backed by the private sector.

Ohio lawmakers who attended the event include Senate President Keith Faber (R-Celina), Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell), Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.), Rep. Wes Retherford (R-Hamilton), Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina), Rep. Ron Hood (R-Ashville), Sen. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati), Rep. Tom Brinkman (R-Cincinnati) and Rep. Lou Terhar (R-Cincinnati).

While some question the group's motives for including businesses in the bill-writing process, Rep. Anielski said the three-day meeting allows her to collaborate with lawmakers across the country to view issues differently.

ALEC was also beneficial in helping her promote legislation (HB 28) that was enacted last summer in Ohio, she said. It provides colleges and universities with free access to suicide prevention programs as well as related materials and tools that were already available to K-12 schools.

"I wanted to make sure that the resources were out there because there are some universities that have already met all the requirements because they're already doing this, but I wanted to bring up the people that needed help and I didn't want them to start from scratch so now they have options," Rep. Anielski said in an interview.

The bill also required institutions to take part in a five-part program that includes crisis intervention access, mental health program access, multimedia applications, a student communication plan and more.

The ALEC-approved version of the legislation is a resolution urging colleges to take part in the programs rather than requiring it, Rep. Anielski said.

"Basically it's almost like a committee process and you have to go and sell it and market it and basically convince your colleagues from around the nation that this is a good idea," she said of ALEC. "I presented it first as a bill in December and they asked me to come back and present it as a resolution because they didn't want schools to be mandated to do that."

West Virginia has already enacted legislation that mirrors Ohio's bill, while four other states have used portions of it, Rep. Anielski said. She's hoping those numbers go up now that the concept has ALEC backing.

She was joined in education-related sessions by Rep. Brenner, who said he spent a portion of the annual meeting involved in brainstorming on charter schools.

The discussions, which included presentations from school choice and charter school leaders from across the country, allowed participants to begin building a framework for those states that need to improve their sectors or are looking to establish one, he said in an interview.

Holding dropout recovery and prevention schools accountable in ways other than test scores that address the makeup of those schools was also a topic of conversation.

"Basically, the biggest thing I don't think (people) get about ALEC is it's not an evil thing. It just like a big interested party meeting," Rep. Brenner said of his experience, referring to criticism of the group.

"We're just discussing basic public policy and what would be good model legislation written basically by legislators and we're dealing with the same organizations back in our Statehouse," he added.

Center for Media and Democracy, the group behind a website called ALEC Exposed, doesn't buy that, though. It argues on its website that the ALEC meetings are where "global corporations and state politicians vote behind closed doors to try to rewrite state laws that govern your rights."

Rep. Brenner said he'd like to see the event televised to provide transparency and educate people about the issues lawmakers - whose meeting expenses are covered by the party - are addressing.

Held in Indianapolis, the event agenda included breakout sessions as well as a speakers list that featured Trump running mate Gov. Mike Pence.

Husted Urging Changes In Special Election Laws

Absentee voting has started in a special Democratic primary for the Eighth Congressional District, although Secretary of State Jon Husted is pushing lawmakers to change the law that is requiring the election to take place.

The special primary is designed to name a Democratic candidate to replace Corey Foister on the ballot in November. Mr. Foister withdrew 107 days before the November election and will be replaced on the ballot by Steve Fought.

State law requires a special election to be held if a congressional candidate withdraws from the race with more than 90 days to go before the general election, according to Mr. Husted's office. After the 90th day before the election, there's a window allowed by state law in which the party could appoint a candidate without a special election.

In a statement, Secretary Husted said he will urge the General Assembly to make changes to Ohio law to avoid having conduct a special primary election in which only one candidate is running in the future.

"It is a waste of time and tax dollars to hold a special election when only one candidate is running," Secretary Husted said. "I hope the legislature will change the law to avoid this problem in the future."

Absentee voting in the special primary for overseas and military voters started Saturday, according to the Secretary of State's office.

Mr. Fought, a former press secretary for U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo), lives in Toledo but plans to move to Butler County to run for the seat, according to a report from the *Toledo Blade*.

Mr. Fought will face U.S. Rep. Warren Davidson (R-Troy), who won the seat formerly held by House Speaker John Boehner in a special election in June (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 8, 2016). Green Party candidate James J. Condit Jr. is also running for the seat.

LPO Plans Appeal After Latest Setback In Ballot Access Case

The Libertarian Party of Ohio said Monday it will appeal a federal appeals court's rejection of the group's claims it was unfairly kept off the state ballot in the 2014 election.

The U.S. Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals on Friday affirmed the May decision by a district court in favor of Secretary of State Jon Husted.

In its appeal to the Sixth Circuit, the LPO claimed state actors selectively enforced the law against Libertarian Party candidates and that state law violated the equal protection

clause of the 14th Amendment by requiring new minor parties to nominate candidates by petition, rather than primary elections.

Circuit Judge Karen Nelson Moore wrote in the decision that the LPO failed to demonstrate the Secretary of State's Office worked with the Ohio Republican Party in a conspiracy to keep the Libertarians off the ballot in 2014. Judge Moore said the district court was correct in granting summary judgment on the selective enforcement claim.

As to the claim of equal rights violations, the court ruled the state's interest in requiring new minor parties to demonstrate a base of support outweighed the burden placed on the LPO by having to nominate candidates by petition, instead of by primary election.

Mark Brown, the LPO's lead attorney, said in a statement that the party will appeal the decision, saying voters should have the ability to vote for their presidential ticket of former New Mexico Gov. Gary Johnson and former Massachusetts Gov. William Weld.

"We are immediately appealing the Sixth Circuit's decision to the United States Supreme Court," he said. "The Constitution and the voting rights of Ohioans are too important not to. The Johnson/Weld ticket offers a critical choice in this election cycle, and as things stand Ohio Republicans have been allowed to cancel that choice. The Supreme Court may change all that."

Joshua Eck, a spokesman for Secretary Husted, said the case has been clearly decided.

"The court of appeals, like every court before them have affirmed that this law is constitutional," he said in an email. "It's time to stop wasting the taxpayers' money with this frivolous lawsuit."

The lawsuit is the latest by the LPO over ballot access. In 2006, the party successfully challenged a state law that required parties that received less than 5% of the vote in the last gubernatorial or presidential election to file petitions 120 days before the primary election, or nearly a year before the general election, in order to appear on the ballot.

The party successfully challenged a similar law in 2011, this one requiring the petitions to be filed 90 days before the primary election.

"As we have promised Ohio voters, the LPO will work to overturn any and all unconstitutional restrictions that Republicans or Democrats use to block voters from having free, fair, and meaningful choices at the ballot box," Bob Bridges, the LPO's executive committee chair, said in a statement.

Mr. Bridges said the party is currently working to gather the 5,000 signatures required to place Govs. Johnson and Weld on the ballot in November as independents. The deadline for that petition is Aug. 10.

Ethics Commission: Former Columbus Council Members Should Pay For Attendance At 2014 Game

The Ohio Ethics Commission has reached agreements with three former Columbus City Council members, including current Mayor Andrew Ginther, for them to pay more than \$400 each after accepting tickets to the 2014 Big Ten Championship football game from a vendor.

The letters from the OEC released Monday call for Mr. Ginther, Council Member Shannon Hardin and now-Franklin County Municipal Judge Eileen Paley to pay \$446.53 to the City of Columbus to benefit new city ethics policies and protocols.

All three were members of the city council in 2014 when Centerplate, a vendor of the Franklin County Convention Facility Authority, paid for them to attend the game in Indianapolis.

The city appoints members to the authority and appropriates more than \$7 million per year to fulfill bond requirements from the FCCFA, meaning the city could be required to fund authority deficits, according to the letter.

The OEC also sent a letter to Donald Leach Jr., an attorney representing the FCCFA, calling for him to pay \$893.06 for the cost of attendance for him and his wife.

Mr. Hardin also agreed to pay \$893.06, also covering the cost of a guest who attended.

The amounts to be paid are the difference between what the officials paid and what the OEC determined the actual cost to Centerplate was for the event and transportation.

The OEC letters said there was no finding in the review that ethics law or other statutes were violated, so the matters were closed and no further action will be taken.

Education Notes: ODE Seeking Career-Focused Education Grant; Chancellor Carey Plans UA Visit; OSU Police Department Recognized

The Ohio Department of Education is soliciting public input as it pursues a grant aimed at improving career-focused education.

Before submitting its application for the three-year grant, ODE said it would like to gather survey responses from educators, parents, students, businesses and community organizations to determine the access to career prep resources in schools now.

"The department will use the information from the survey to create the grant proposal on how Ohio will increase pathways for students to get the training and skills they need to compete for jobs," according to an ODE release.

The New Skills for Youth grant is sponsored by the Council of Chief State School Officers, the National Association of State Directors of Career Technical Education Consortium and JP Morgan Chase.

Chancellor Visit: Chancellor John Carey will head to the University of Akron Tuesday to lead a roundtable discussion on higher education and business partnerships.

ODHE announced that from 10:30-noon he'll be joined by UA's Interim President Matthew J. Wilson as well as business partners and a number of representatives from northeast Ohio colleges and universities that are part of a Regionally Aligned Priorities in Delivering Skills grant process.

Mr. Carey is expected to explain the funding that will be provided to the region as part of a RAPIDS grant and how that money can be used to benefit businesses and higher education.

Campus Police: Ohio State University's Police Division has received its first reaccreditation from the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies, the institution announced.

The campus police department is one of about 70 universities agencies that meet the commission's 188 standards, according to an OSU release. It was first accredited by CALEA in 2013.

"The Ohio State University Police Division has a uniquely tailored approach focusing on both safety and education," OSUPD Chief Craig Stone said in a statement. "CALEA accreditation exemplifies our commitment to the safety of our campus community and shows we hold our officers to the highest standards in law enforcement."

Gongwer Statehouse Job Market Updated

Gongwer's Statehouse Job Market has been updated. The update is available on the Gongwer website.

Subscribers interested in posting job openings on Gongwer's employment board can send job descriptions and other information to gongwer@gongwer-oh.com.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Wednesday, August 3

Ohio Collaborative Community-Police Advisory Board, Ohio Department of Public Safety
Atrium, 1970 W. Broad St., 1st floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Sunday, August 7

Lisa Schacht (R-Candidate 20th House District) fundraiser, Schacht Family Farm, 5950 Shannon Road, Canal Winchester, 6 p.m., (Special Guests Secretary of State Jon Husted and Ohio Senator Kevin Bacon. Host: \$300; Host Committee: \$200; Supporter: \$100; Attendee: \$25/person to Citizens for Lisa Schacht)

Thursday, August 11

Ohio Charter School Summit, Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 North High Street, Columbus, 9 a.m.

Friday, August 12

Ohio Charter School Summit, Hyatt Regency Columbus, 350 North High Street, Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Rep. Dorothy Pelanda (R-Marysville) Golf Outing fundraiser, Darby Creek Golf Course, 19300 Orchard Road, Marysville, 11:30 a.m., (11:30am Registration and Lunch; 12:30pm Shotgun Start; 5:00pm Reception with Special Guest Attorney General Mike DeWine. Lunch/Golf/Reception: \$80/person; Reception Only: \$40/person; Hole Sponsor: \$100 to Pelanda for State Representative)

Tuesday, August 16

Wes Goodman (R-Candidate 87th House District) fundraiser, Cedar Creek Barn, 7723 State Route 42, Mansfield, 5:30 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$200; Couple: \$50; Individual: \$25 to Friends of Wes Goodman)

Tuesday, August 23

~~Canceled: Rep. Terry Johnson (R-McDermott) fundraiser, Athletic Club of Columbus, 436 E. Broad Street, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$2,500; Sponsor: \$1,000; Patron: \$500; Guest: \$350 to Terry Johnson for State Rep)~~

Wednesday, August 24

Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville) & Rep. Stephanie Kunze (R-Candidate 16th Senate District) golf outing fundraiser, Country Club at Muirfield Village, 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin, 8:30 a.m., (\$1,000 Total Contribution. Golfers pay for their own golf. Please make separate checks for \$500 each payable to Troy Balderson for State Senator & Citizens for Stephanie Kunze)

Tuesday, September 6

Matt Huffman (R-Candidate 12th Senate District) golf outing fundraiser, Hidden Creek Golf Club, 6245 Sugar Creek Rd., Lima, 9 a.m., (Registration 9:00-10:00am, Shotgun Start 10:00am \$1,000 Event Sponsor | \$200 Tee Sponsor | \$100 per Golfer to Matt Huffman for Ohio)
Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) golf outing fundraiser, Pinnacle Golf Club, 1500 Pinnacle Club Drive, Grove City, 11 a.m., (11:00am Shotgun and Lunch; 12:00pm Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$1,500; Food/Beverage Sponsor: \$750; Foursome: \$400; Hole Sponsor: \$200; Individual Golfer: \$125 to Friends of Gary Scherer)

Rep. Ron Young (R-Leroy Township) Winery Reception fundraiser, Debonne Vineyards, 7840 Doty Road, Madison, 5:30 p.m., (with Special Guest Lieutenant Governor Mary Taylor. Chair: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500 to Friends of Ron Young)

Wednesday, September 7

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) & Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser, County Club at Muirfield Village, 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin, 8:30 a.m., (\$1,000 Total Contribution. Golfers

pay for their own golf. Please make separate checks for \$500 each payable to Citizens for Bill Beagle & Peterson for Good Government)

Tuesday, September 13

Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) and Rep. Doug Green (R-Mt. Orab) fundraiser, Ringside, 19 N. Pearl Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Hambley for House Committee and/or Committee to Elect Doug Green)

Wednesday, September 14

Rep. Jim Butler (R-Oakwood) and Rep. Margy Conditt (R-Liberty Township) fundraiser, Oliver's, 26 N. High Street, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Butler for Ohio and/or Friends of Margy Conditt)

Monday, September 19

Rep. Steve Huffman (R-Tipp City) golf outing fundraiser, Homestead Golf Course, 5327 Worley Road, Tipp City, 8:30 a.m., (8:30am Registration and Light Breakfast; 9:30am Remarks from Congressman Warren Davidson; 10:00am Shotgun Start. Event Sponsor: \$2,000; Food and Beverage Sponsor: \$1,000; Tee Sponsor: \$500; Individual Golfer: \$250 PAC/\$150 Individual to Steve Huffman for State Rep)

Tuesday, September 20

Rep. Derek Merrin (R-Waterville) fundraiser, OHROC Offices, 21 W. Broad Street, Floor 7, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Friends of Derek Merrin)

Wednesday, September 21

Craig Riedel (R-Candidate 82nd House District) fundraiser, Oliver's, 26 N. High Street, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$200 to Citizens to Elect Craig Riedel)

Friday, September 30

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) fly fishing fundraiser, Spring Run Farms, 9206 Haddix Road, Fairborn, 11 a.m., (11:00am-4:00pm Fishing, 4:00-6:00pm Reception; \$1,000 Pike Sponsor | \$500 Salmon Sponsor | \$350 Trout Sponsor | \$175 Bluegill Sponsor | \$100 per couple/family | \$75 per Individual to Citizens for Bill Beagle)

Tuesday, October 18

OHROC Fundraising Reception, Athletic Club of Columbus, 136 E. Broad Street, Gold Room, Columbus, 5 p.m., (Chair: \$5,000; Sponsor: \$2,500; Host: \$1,000; Guest: \$500 OHROC)

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Alan Miller, Vice President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley,
Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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House Activity for Monday, August 1, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB 587 ■

DASHBOARD CAMERAS (Boyce, K.) To require law enforcement officers to use dashboard cameras and body cameras during any time that they are interacting with any member of the public while in the performance of their duties, to provide for state financial assistance to local law enforcement agencies for the purchase of such cameras and related equipment, and to make an appropriation. Am. 109.73, 109.742, 109.77, 109.79, and 109.80 and to enact sections 2901.51 and 2901.52

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Senate Activity for Monday, August 1, 2016

INTRODUCED

SB 342 

WEAPON POSSESSION (Thomas, C.) To grant municipal corporations the authority to impose a ban or restriction on the open carry or concealed carry of any firearm in a publicly secured area established by the municipal corporation during an event of regional or national significance being held in the municipal corporation. Am. 9.68, 2923.122, and 2923.126 of the Revised Code and to amend Section 9 of Am. Sub. H.B. 12 of the 125th General Assembly

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Daily Activity Planner for Tuesday, August 2

Legislative Committees

Senate Agriculture (Committee Record), House Agriculture & Rural Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150, Chr. Hill, B., 644-6014), Donahey Nationwide Ag./Hort. Building, Ohio State Fairgrounds, 10 a.m.

- Testimony from Virgil Strickler, General Manager of the Ohio State Fair; Jack Fisher, Executive Vice President of the Ohio Farm Bureau Federation; Dave Daniels, Director of the Ohio Department of Agriculture; Jim Zehringer, Director of the Ohio Department of Natural Resources; Craig Butler, Director of the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency; Dean Rustin Moore, DVM, PhD, The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Mary Buehler, Ohio Fair's Queen/FFA State President

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 119, 1:30 p.m.

House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 2:30 p.m.

- Session to fill vacancies in the 3rd and 47th House Districts

Agency Calendar

Construction Industry Licensing Board, OCILB Conf. Rm., 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 10 a.m. (Electrical Section)

Board of Building Appeals, Training Rm. 1, 6606 Tussing Rd., Reynoldsburg, 12:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Rep. Rick Perales (R-Beavercreek) fundraiser, 21 W. Broad Street, 7th Floor, Columbus, 12 p.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Sponsor: \$350 to Citizens for Perales)

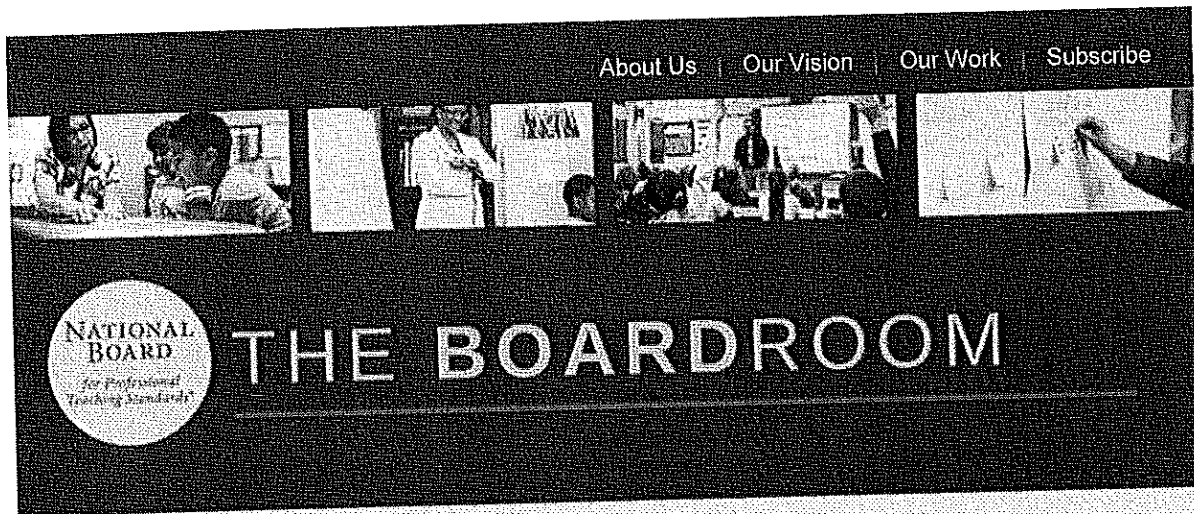
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From: National Board for Professional Teaching Standards (Do Not Reply)
Sent: Thursday, August 18, 2016 8:39 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: The Boardroom: August 2016



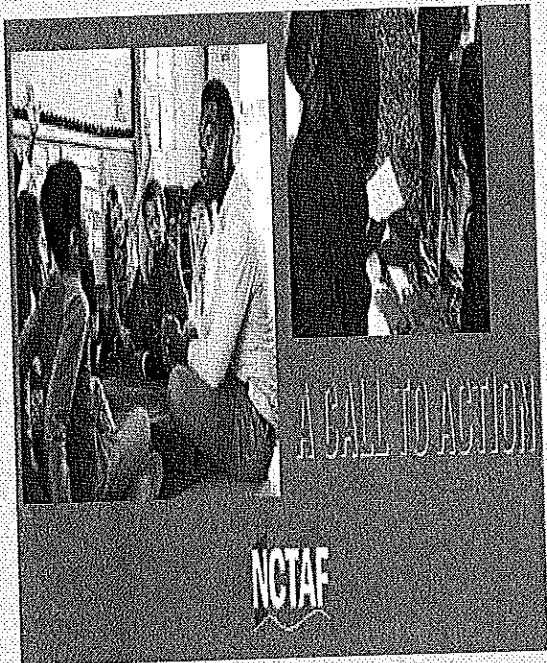
August 2016

Grace,

It's that time of the year again! Depending on where you live, the school year has or will soon begin. The end of summer is the start of a familiar cycle - you're rejuvenated thanks to summer learning, projects and vacations. Teachers and their students from coast to coast feel a special energy, and experience nerves and high hopes for what awaits them. Those high hopes are present at the National Board, too, as more than 12,000 candidates continue their pursuit of "NBCT." This issue of *The Boardroom* focuses on what's happened this summer, what lies ahead, opportunities and a renewed focus on practical ideas for teachers.

STAY CONNECTED

BUILDING THE CONTINUUM



#WhatMattersNow

Last week the National Commission on Teaching and America's Future (NCTAF) released "What Matters Now," which argues that while there have been significant improvements in education since the release of their seminal report "What Matters Most" 20 years ago, the progress has been uneven. They offer recommendations for systemic change in states and districts, which includes encouraging teacher-led professional learning aligned with professional teaching standards. Genevieve DeBose, NBCT, gave the keynote address at the release event.

[WATCH THE KEYNOTE](#)

"To be inspired and connected to a room of similarly passionate educators is an emotional lift. It also provides great networking and learning opportunities."

ACADEMY PARTICIPANT

Leveraging Leadership and Inspiring Action

The 2016 National Board Academy was held in Las Vegas, Nevada from July 10-12. This annual event aims to engage stakeholder collaboration, provide a platform to share ideas and create a space to build plans to bring accomplished teaching and National Board Certification to scale. This year's theme was "Leveraging Leadership and Inspiring Action." Of the 184 attendees, 137 were NBCTs from 36 states across the nation. Participants connected with peers to learn more about innovative models and build action-oriented team plans for the 2016-2017 school year.

[STORIFY RECAP](#)

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

Accomplished Teachers Win Award for Teaching Excellence

Next February, 43 educators from across the country will receive the NEA Foundation's California

Casualty Award for Teaching Excellence. The prestigious award is given to educators for their dedication to the profession, community engagement, professional development, attention to diversity and advocacy for fellow educators. Twelve of the award recipients are NBCTs.

Agents for Learning

In late July, 55 teachers, including 17 NBCTs, gathered in downtown Chicago as part of the Agents for Learning Competition. Twelve teams of teachers from across the country discussed the best ways states and districts can invest their ESSA funds to support professional learning. The presentations can serve as resources as you advocate in your own state and district for the best ways to invest in professional learning. Check out our ESSA page for additional resources.



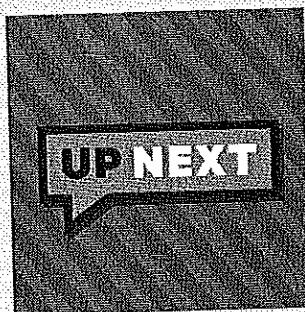
TEACHERS CORNER



[LEARN MORE](#)

How to Kick Off the School Year as a Rookie (or a Mentor)

New teacher orientation often leaves out the top subject on teachers' minds: The first day of school, says Roxanne Elden, NBCT. That's why she created *The School Year Starter Kit* a free, three-day email series to help newbies cut through information overload and focus on the few, basic things that will most help them prepare for their first day. The kit also offers much-needed reinforcement for those serving as mentors for beginning teachers.



Free college support - through texts to students

First Lady Michelle Obama recently launched Up Next, Better Make Room's text messaging campaign that gives students and families free personalized support on all things college - college search and application, federal student aid and even student loan repayment. The campaign is evidence-based and low-cost, and research has shown that it can significantly increase students' college enrollment and persistence - if students sign up. This is where you come in. Encourage your students to sign up! All they have to do is text "college" to 44044.

SIGN UP

WHAT WE'RE READING

There's No Time to Lose

The National Conference of State Legislatures recently released "No Time to Lose: How to Build a World-Class Education System State by State." The report is the result of an 18-month study by a bipartisan group of 28 legislators and legislative staff. Marc Tucker, President and CEO of the National Center on Education and the Economy, summarizes the report in this [blog post](#).

Looking Ahead to the 2016 Election

Wondering where the presidential nominees stand on education? Education Week has got you covered. Here are two recent articles on [education priorities](#) and [potential US Secretary of Education picks](#) of Democratic nominee, Hillary Clinton, and Republican nominee, Donald Trump.

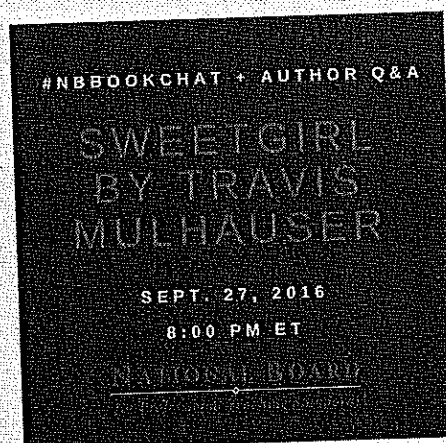
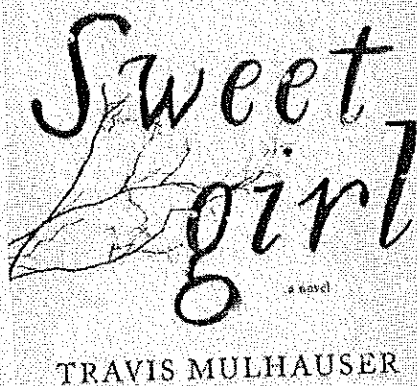
Mark Your Calendars for the Next #NBBookChat:

Date: September 27, 2016

Time: 8:00 p.m. ET

Book: *Sweetgirl* by Travis Mulhauser

ADD TO CALENDAR



On The Standard

- [Opening My Door as a Candidate for Board Certification](#) by Kelly Pace
- [Accomplished Teaching and the Growth Mindset](#) by Amber Chandler, NBCT
- [Taking Responsibility for Professional Practices](#) by David Cohen, NBCT

- A Call for Peace-Based Teacher Leadership by Jennifer Dines, NBCT
- NBCTs Take a Stand in Support of Educational Policies by Java Robinson, NBCT
- What They Don't Seem to Understand About Certification by Corey Oliver, NBCT
- To Transform Schools, Slow Down by Mark Gardner, NBCT
- Religious Tolerance: Teaching the Teachers by Chris Murray, NBCT
- Letting Go of "We've Always Done it This Way" by David Cohen, NBCT

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NATIONAL BOARD

www.nbpts.org

From: gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service [gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com]
Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2016 1:15 PM
To: Standard_Subscriber_updates@gongwer-oh.com
Subject: NEWS UPDATE--Troopers Reach Contract Agreement With State



Thursday, August 25, 2016, 01:15 PM

Troopers Reach Contract Agreement With State

The state and Ohio State Troopers Association on Thursday announced details of a tentative three-year contract agreement supported by more than 90% of the union members who voted in recent days.

The 1,760-member union negotiated a 12.5% raise over three years in annual increments of 5%, 5% and 2.5%, OSTA President Jeremy Mendenhall said. Since the negotiations were delayed, the first year increase will be retroactive to the expiration date of the last contract, which was July 1, 2015.

The pact includes a one-time ratification payment of \$750 for members, according to the union and Department of Administrative Services.

OSTA received a higher increase than other union employees, which received 7.5% over three years "in exchange for concessions to the Health and Physical Fitness Program, management discretion in selection, and flexibility in the area of personal leave," the two sides reported in a joint news release.

The groups said language in the contract that enhances management rights and employee accountability, streamlines the disciplinary process and lengthens the retention period for discipline, is "consistent with the changes in the other collective bargaining agreements," according to the release.

Pending Controlling Board ratification, the contract will be effective on Sept. 29.

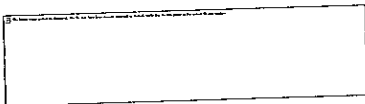
More details in today's Gongwer News Service *Ohio Report*.

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From: Smith, Kristen
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2016 8:29 AM
Subject: E-Clips for 8/26/16

HOUSE E-CLIPS 08/26/16



OHIO COURT: JUVENILE CRIMES CAN'T ENHANCE ADULT SENTENCES

Ohio's Supreme Court has ruled that prior juvenile convictions cannot be used to increase the severity of charges or the length of prison sentences those individuals receive as adults.

ACCIDENTAL OVERDOSES KILLED 8 PEOPLE A DAY IN OHIO LAST YEAR

Accidental drug overdoses killed 3,050 people in Ohio last year, an average of eight per day, as deaths blamed on the powerful painkiller fentanyl again rose sharply and pushed the total overdose fatalities to a record high, the state reported Thursday.

THE LATEST: OHIO GOVERNOR SEES PROGRESS, DESPITE DRUG TOLL

The Latest on the Ohio's new record drug overdose death toll (all times local):

The Columbus Dispatch
Ohio's Greatest Online Newspaper

OHIO POLITICS NOW: KASICH SAYS 'WE'RE NOT LOOKING THE OTHER WAY' AS OVERDOSE DEATHS HIT RECORD

State's new record: A report released Thursday shows the state hit another record with 3,050 drug overdose deaths in 2015, Dispatch reporter Alan Johnson writes. Here's a look at how many people that actually is.

STATE TRYING TO JUMP HURDLES TO ENACT RULES FOR CHARTER SPONSOR EVALUATIONS

Amid the perception that there is a movement afoot to delay holding charter sponsors accountable for their schools' performance, the Department of Education says its "exploring the best options" to keep new evaluations on track.

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS PUSHED TO ANOTHER RECORD HIGH IN OHIO

Across Ohio, someone died from a drug overdose every two hours and 52 minutes on average all year long in 2015.

EDITORIAL: STOP ABUSIVE UTILITY CHARGES

For years now, utility resellers have derailed every effort at the Statehouse to regulate them.

TALK OF JUVENILE, ADULT PRISONS MERGER CONCERNS ADVOCATES

A potential merger of the state's adult and juvenile prison systems is raising alarm among advocates for troubled youth.

Dayton Daily News

www.daytondailynews.com

DRUG OVERDOSE DEATHS SKYROCKET IN OHIO

Unintentional drug overdose deaths in Ohio skyrocketed to more than 3,000 in 2015 — an average of more than eight per day — according to a state health department report released Thursday.

THE PLAIN DEALER

'RIGGED' ELECTION? OHIO ELECTIONS CHIEF JON HUSTED BEGS TO DIFFER.

Donald Trump's first general election TV ad, which began airing in Ohio and elsewhere last week, flashes a jarring image within the first two seconds.

OHIO STATE TROOPERS TO RECEIVE FIRST RAISE SINCE 2008 IN NEW UNION

CONTRACT

The Ohio State Troopers Association overwhelmingly approved a new three-year contract with the state that includes a bigger boost than other state employees.

THE ENQUIRER

OHIO'S FATAL DRUG OVERDOSES TOPPED 3,000 IN 2015

Since 2010, accidental drug overdoses in Ohio have taken the lives equal to the population of its smallest county, Vinton.

From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 5:39 PM
To: Snider, Grace
CC: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: FW: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Flagged

Grace:

Please see below for information on the meeting I mentioned to you last week. Rep. Cupp wanted me to reach out to Rep. Smith's office to see if either you or Taylor would like to join in the meeting (especially in light of the importance of this issue in SE Ohio).

Thank you in advance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Have a lovely evening!

Best,
Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski
Deputy Legal Counsel Legislative Aide
House Republican Caucus Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp
614.644.9820 614.466.9624
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 13th Floor Columbus, Ohio 43215
Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 4:58 PM
To: 'mike@PFRFCFO.com'; 'dotsonm@ohea.org'; 'pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'djohnson@oft-aft.org'; 'lkeough@ohiocathconf.org'; 'Clark, Melissa [OH]'; 'Craig Burford'; Baker, Dan; 'Tom Ash'; 'Barbara Shaner (barbara@oasbo-ohio.org)'; 'Damon Asbury (dasbury@ohioschoolboards.org)'; 'jaysmith@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'Jennifer Hogue (jhogue@ohioschoolboards.org)'; 'Erik P Roush'; 'kevin.spears@ecoesc.org'; 'david.branch@mvesc.org'
Cc: Harris, Stephen; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick; Lauren Jones
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Update:

The meeting will be held this Thursday (Sept. 1) from 11 to 1 pm in the 13th floor West conference room of the Riffe Center (located at 77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215).

If you have not been here in the past several months, please note that additional security measures have been added by the elevators. All visitors will have to stop at the 3rd floor security desk and present their ID to the security officers. They will then receive a visitor badge and can go to the 13th floor. Upon arrival on the 13th floor, please check in with the front desk staffer as they will alert our office that you have arrived.

Again, the purpose of this meeting is for stakeholders to come to the meeting prepared to explain the issues that they would like to see considered in the area of education transportation funding. This is expected to be an informal gathering, and IP's need not submit their comments in advance. No formal comments need be submitted, but you are always welcome to share any documents you have.

For the few of you that have indicated you will have to call-in, please use the information below:

Conference line: [REDACTED]

Passcode: [REDACTED]

Please let me know if you have any further questions. Thank you again for your kind attention and insight. We hope this will be a very fruitful meeting.

Best regards,
Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski

Deputy Legal Counsel

House Republican Caucus

614.644.9820

Ohio House of Representatives

77 South High Street, 13th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215

Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

Legislative Aide

Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp

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From: Willamowski, Sheila

Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 1:32 PM

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Cc: Harris, Stephen; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick; Lauren Jones
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Update:

We have almost settled on a date and time, but I am waiting to hear back from two IP's. All other stakeholders have aggregately indicated that the best times/dates for them are:

Option 1 (*preferred*): Thursday (Sept. 1) from 11 to 1
Option 2: Friday (Sept. 2) from 10 to 12

Please hold both times open if possible. I will try to send a final email by COB today with the settled upon time/date.

Thank you in advance!

Best,
Sheila

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From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Friday, August 26, 2016 4:03 PM
To: 'erousch@columbus.k12.oh.us'; 'Barbara@oasbo-ohio.org'; 'mike@PFRFCFO.com'; 'dotsonm@ohea.org'; 'pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'djohnson@oft-aft.org'; 'lkeough@ohiocathconf.org'
Cc: Harris, Stephen; Willamowski, Sheila; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick; Lauren Jones
Subject: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Dear Interested Parties:

As you may have heard during yesterday's JEOC meeting, Reps. Cupp and Patterson want to have a small meeting for stakeholders that are greatly impacted by K-12 education transportation funding issues. Specifically, Rep. Cupp has asked for stakeholders to come to the meeting prepared to explain the issues that they would like to see considered in this area. This is expected to be an informal gathering, and IP's need not submit their comments in advance. No formal comments need be submitted, but you are always welcome to share any documents you have.

Rep. Cupp would like to move forward quickly, and has asked to try to make this happen in the next two weeks.

Here are the dates/times we are considering:

Thursday (September 1) between 11 am and 5 pm

Friday (September 2) between 10 am and 5 pm

The meeting is expected to be held in the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus. The meeting is expected to last between one to two hours.

Please let me know if you are able to meet during these dates and times, and of any conflicts you may have during these time frames. We will do our best to work around your schedules, but if we cannot make it work for every individual, you are welcome to send another organizational representative in your place. Alternatively, you are welcome to call-in from a remote location. Once I hear back from everyone, I'll announce the date and time settled upon.

Finally, if you know of another individual that you think should also be in attendance, please let me know their name and email address. We are trying to not overlap interests, but we certainly want to be mindful of all relevant parties.

Thank you in advance for your coordination efforts and continued efforts in addressing this important issue.

Best regards,
Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski

Deputy Legal Counsel
House Republican Caucus

614.644.9820

Ohio House of Representatives

77 South High Street, 13th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215

Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

Legislative Aide

Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp

614.466.9624

From: Snider, Grace
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 5:15 PM
To: Willamowski, Sheila
CC: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Thanks Sheila! I'll be there.

From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 5:39 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Cc: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: FW: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

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Thank you in advance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Have a lovely evening!

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Best regards,
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614.466.9624

From: Willamowski, Sheila

Sent: Friday, August 26, 2016 4:03 PM

To: 'erousch@columbus.k12.oh.us'; 'Barbara@oasbo-ohio.org'; 'mike@PFRFCFO.com';

'dotsonm@ohea.org'; 'pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'djohnson@oft-aft.org';
'likeough@ohiocathconf.org'
Cc: Harris, Stephen; Willamowski, Sheila; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick;
Lauren Jones
Subject: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Dear Interested Parties:

As you may have heard during yesterday's JEOC meeting, Reps. Cupp and Patterson want to have a small meeting for stakeholders that are greatly impacted by K-12 education transportation funding issues. Specifically, Rep. Cupp has asked for stakeholders to come to the meeting prepared to explain the issues that they would like to see considered in this area. This is expected to be an informal gathering, and IP's need not submit their comments in advance. No formal comments need be submitted, but you are always welcome to share any documents you have.

Rep. Cupp would like to move forward quickly, and has asked to try to make this happen in the next two weeks.

Here are the dates/times we are considering:

Thursday (September 1) between 11 am and 5 pm
Friday (September 2) between 10 am and 5 pm

The meeting is expected to be held in the Riffe Center in downtown Columbus. The meeting is expected to last between one to two hours.

Please let me know if you are able to meet during these dates and times, and of any conflicts you may have during these time frames. We will do our best to work around your schedules, but if we cannot make it work for every individual, you are welcome to send another organizational representative in your place. Alternatively, you are welcome to call-in from a remote location. Once I hear back from everyone, I'll announce the date and time settled upon.

Finally, if you know of another individual that you think should also be in attendance, please let me know their name and email address. We are trying to not overlap interests, but we certainly want to be mindful of all relevant parties.

Thank you in advance for your coordination efforts and continued efforts in addressing this important issue.

Best regards,
Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski
Deputy Legal Counsel
House Republican Caucus
614.644.9820
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 13th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215
Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp
614.466.9624

From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 6:08 PM
To: Snider, Grace
CC: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Great. Thanks, Grace!

From: Snider, Grace
Sent: Wednesday, August 31, 2016 5:15 PM
To: Willamowski, Sheila
Cc: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Thanks Sheila! I'll be there.

From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 5:39 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Cc: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: FW: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Grace:

Please see below for information on the meeting I mentioned to you last week. Rep. Cupp wanted me to reach out to Rep. Smith's office to see if either you or Taylor would like to join in the meeting (especially in light of the importance of this issue in SE Ohio).

Thank you in advance. Please let me know if you have any questions.

Have a lovely evening!

Best,
Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski
Deputy Legal Counsel
House Republican Caucus
614.644.9820
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 13th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215
Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

Legislative Aide
Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp
614.466.9624

From: Willamowski, Sheila
Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 4:58 PM
To: 'mike@PFRFCFO.com'; 'dotsonm@ohea.org'; 'pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org';
'djohnson@oft-aft.org'; 'lkeough@ohiocathconf.org'; 'Clark, Melissa [OH]'; 'Craig Burford';
Baker, Dan; 'Tom Ash'; 'Barbara Shaner (barbara@oasbo-ohio.org)'; 'Damon Asbury
(dasbury@ohioschoolboards.org)'; 'jaysmith@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'Jennifer Hogue
(jhogue@ohioschoolboards.org)'; 'Erik P Roush'; 'kevin.spears@ecoesc.org';
'david.branch@mvesc.org'
Cc: Harris, Stephen; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick; Lauren Jones
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Update:

The meeting will be held this Thursday (Sept. 1) from 11 to 1 pm in the 13th floor West conference room of the Riffe Center (located at 77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215).

If you have not been here in the past several months, please note that additional security measures have been added by the elevators. All visitors will have to stop at the 3rd floor security desk and present their ID to the security officers. They will then receive a visitor badge and can go to the 13th floor. Upon arrival on the 13th floor, please check in with the front desk staffer as they will alert our office that you have arrived.

Again, the purpose of this meeting is for stakeholders to come to the meeting prepared to explain the issues that they would like to see considered in the area of education transportation funding. This is expected to be an informal gathering, and IP's need not submit their comments in advance. No formal comments need be submitted, but you are always welcome to share any documents you have.

For the few of you that have indicated you will have to call-in, please use the information below:

Conference line: [REDACTED]

Passcode: [REDACTED]

Please let me know if you have any further questions. Thank you again for your kind attention and insight. We hope this will be a very fruitful meeting.

Best regards,
Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski

Deputy Legal Counsel

House Republican Caucus

614.644.9820

Ohio House of Representatives

77 South High Street, 13th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215

Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

Legislative Aide

Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp

614.466.9624

From: Willamowski, Sheila

Sent: Monday, August 29, 2016 1:32 PM

To: 'erousch@columbus.k12.oh.us'; 'mike@PFRFCFO.com'; 'dotsonm@ohea.org';
'pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'djohnson@oft-aft.org'; 'lkeough@ohiocathconf.org'; 'Clark,
Melissa [OH]'; 'Craig Burford'; Baker, Dan; Tom Ash; Barbara Shaner (barbara@oasbo-ohio.org);
Damon Asbury (dasbury@ohioschoolboards.org);
'jaysmith@ohioschoolboards.org'; Jennifer Hogue (jhogue@ohioschoolboards.org)
Cc: Harris, Stephen; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick; Lauren Jones
Subject: RE: Education Meeting Invitation From Reps. Cupp and Patterson

Update:

We have almost settled on a date and time, but I am waiting to hear back from two IP's. All other stakeholders have aggregately indicated that the best times/dates for them are:

Option 1 (*preferred*): Thursday (Sept. 1) from 11 to 1
Option 2: Friday (Sept. 2) from 10 to 12

Please hold both times open if possible. I will try to send a final email by COB today with the settled upon time/date.

Thank you in advance!

Best,

Sheila

Sheila Louise Willamowski
Deputy Legal Counsel Legislative Aide
House Republican Caucus Office of Representative Robert R. Cupp
614.644.9820 614.466.9624
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 13th Floor | Columbus, Ohio 43215
Sheila.Willamowski@ohiohouse.gov

From: Willamowski, Sheila
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To: 'erousch@columbus.k12.oh.us'; 'Barbara@oasbo-ohio.org'; 'mike@PFRFCFO.com';
'dotsonm@ohea.org'; 'pjapikse@ohioschoolboards.org'; 'djohnson@oft-aft.org';
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Cc: Harris, Stephen; Willamowski, Sheila; Rep04; Rep99; Bartlett, Malika; Derksen, Nick;
Lauren Jones
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From: Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov
Sent: Friday, September 2, 2016 4:41 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: RE: Follow-up

Grace:

Next Wednesday, 9/7 at 1:30 pm works on my end. I assume this is the meeting we discussed to brief Chairman Smith on tentative agreement reached with the Ohio State Troopers Association (OSTA)?

As usual, I will have my staff from the DAS Office of Collective Bargaining with me to assist with the briefing.

Many thanks,

Patrick Smith

From: Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov [mailto:Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: Smith, Patrick <Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up

Hey Patrick,

Thanks for passing along the info. Would you be available to meet next Wednesday either at 1:30 or 3pm?

Thanks!
Grace

From: Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov [mailto:Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 4:56 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Follow-up

Grace – per our conversation, see page two of the attached. This is what we shared when the turnstiles went live.

Sorry for your frustration, I always appreciate the opportunity to talk with you and try and help whenever possible.

All the best,

Patrick

Patrick Smith

Deputy Chief of Staff

Office of the Director

614-995-0936

patrick.smith@das.ohio.gov



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service survey by clicking [here](#).*

From: Snider, Grace
Sent: Tuesday, September 6, 2016 5:09 PM
To: 'Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov'
Subject: RE: Follow-up

Sounds good, Patrick. While Rep. Kunze will be serving on the upcoming CB, it will still be helpful to have this briefing with Rep. Smith. We'll see you tomorrow on the 13th floor.

Thanks again,
Grace

From: Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov [mailto:Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 4:41 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: RE: Follow-up

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Patrick Smith

From: Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov [mailto:Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: Smith, Patrick <Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up

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Thanks!
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Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 4:56 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Follow-up

Grace – per our conversation, see page two of the attached. This is what we shared when the turnstiles went live.

Sorry for your frustration, I always appreciate the opportunity to talk with you and try and help whenever possible.

All the best,

Patrick

Patrick Smith
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Director
614-995-0936
patrick.smith@das.ohio.gov



*How are we doing?
Please take our brief customer
service survey by clicking [here](#).*

From: Gongwer News Service
Sent: Tuesday, September 6, 2016 5:48 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Ohio Report, Tuesday, September 6, 2016
Attachments: Sep6.htm; Sep6House.htm; 160906dayplan.htm



Ohio Report for Tuesday, September 6, 2016

Stakeholder Group Reconvenes To Recommend Sponsor Evaluation Updates

House District 16: Cuyahoga Councilman Faces Democratic Operative In Battle For Baker Seat

Buckeye Institute Calls For More Union Decertification Votes, Policy Matters Ohio Urges Lawmakers To Promote Unionization

State Board Looking To Help 2,000 Displaced Ohio ITT Students

Ohio Sees Drop In Obesity Rate, But Trends Show Continued Rise In Diabetes, Hypertension, Report Says

Trump, Clinton Spend Holiday Campaigning In Ohio

Democratic PAC Cancels \$3M More In Strickland Ads; Nicklaus Backs Portman

From Congress: Brown, Portman Praise Trade Ruling On Steel; Kaptur Welcomes \$2M In Housing Funds; Latta Tours OSU Radio Optics Lab...

Court Briefs: Court Rules Meigs County Charter Proposal Should Move Forward; Man Injured At Basketball Game Loses Case; Attorneys Reprimanded...

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Supplemental Event Planner

Activity Reports

House

Calendars

Day Planner

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Volume #85, Report #172 -- Tuesday, September 6, 2016
Stakeholder Group Reconvenes To Recommend Sponsor Evaluation Updates

A group of charter school sponsors who previously worked to update the process by which they are evaluated has reunited to offer new recommendations as the Ohio Department of Education heads back to the drawing board.

Sponsors have been raising concerns about a change in evaluation practices since they were introduced last year, but the time is ripe for them to step in and make their voices heard following the Joint Committee on Agency Rule Review's shelving of a rule dealing with the compliance portion of the reviews.

St. Aloysius representative Dave Cash said he recently reconvened a stakeholder group that had been defunct for the past three years, hoping that JCARR's decision could provide an opportunity for members to provide feedback and offer suggestions on the evaluations.

JCARR leaders have since said they expect the ODE to present an updated rule and the Common Sense Initiative has asked the agency to collect additional public comments.

"We anticipated JCARR would send the rule back and get stakeholder feedback that they did not get the first time. Who better to try to provide some of that stakeholder input than the ones who were involved in the evaluation to begin with?" Mr. Cash said in an interview.

"We've put a significant amount of resources into trying to put an evaluation tool together that was then not finished out and then not implemented well and it all fell apart. We felt it was our obligation to try to step up and offer recommendations to fix it."

The group, which includes representatives from the Ohio Association of Charter School Authorizers, Ohio Coalition for Quality Education, Ohio Alliance for Public Charter Schools, Reynoldsburg City Schools, and the Thomas B. Fordham Foundation, originally began meeting in 2012.

At that time, members - who were also joined by representatives of the National Association of Charter School Authorizers and ODE employees - spent a year and a half crafting a process to measure sponsor compliance and piloting it throughout the state.

Their recommendations on compliance became part of the previous sponsor evaluation that was never fully implemented and was ultimately revamped because it came to light that sponsor ratings were miscalculated by then-Office of School Choice Director David Hansen.

Sticking with some of the same premises as the last time they were active, the group is also taking into consideration new laws as it drafts updated recommendations, some of which have already been presented to CSI and ODE, Mr. Cash said.

Earlier this week, the group created a process and timeline for the compliance portion of the evaluation. It would require the validation of just 10% of the items on the compliance list, but those items would be selected at random.

The group has also suggested that a number of items be removed from the list, the OCQE's Beth Lear said. Of the 319 items schools were required to verify compliance with, the group found that 15 were not required under law, 12 required sponsors to confirm a negative and 78 were documents to which ODE already has access.

Their recommendations were submitted the same day Superintendent of Public Instruction Paolo DeMaria sent the State Board of Education a memo stating that the agency would revert back to the current rule for the compliance portion of the reviews and continuing working on the new proposal. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 1, 2016)

Under those compliance guidelines, ODE would examine whether all rules and laws are being met at just 10% of sponsors' schools as opposed to all of them.

Mr. Cash said that system isn't preferable because sponsors only have to certify that a number of the compliance items are being met.

Allowing sponsors to verify information without a system in place to check for validity puts the state back in the same position it was in when it asked the stakeholder group to make recommendations for a new evaluation process in 2012, he said.

"We wanted to make sure who was performing well and who was not performing well. We wanted tools so we could show we were doing the work we said we were doing," he said, adding that the previous evaluation system simply required sponsors to tell the agency whether they were meeting standards or not.

Mr. Cash said ODE has not responded to the new recommendations or voiced interest in rejoining the conversation.

"They've got to be a partner with us in this work," Mr. Cash said. "They're responsible for the Ohio system of public education and there are 400 charter schools and 120,000 students (that attend them) - that's a significant portion of Ohio's public education system and we need ODE to be partner with us on that so we can keep doing good work."

Ms. Lear said it's also important for ODE to work with sponsors on evaluation system updates because the agency also sponsors a number of charter schools.

"It doesn't really look good for one sponsor to be setting the rules for all sponsors," she said in an interview.

ODE's Brittany Halpin said, "We've received the letter and we always appreciate the input of our stakeholders."

Up next, the group said it plans to offer suggestions for changing the quality and compliance portions of the evaluations following a Sept. 12 meeting.

Mr. Cash said the latest academic portion of the review is concerning because it's centered on report card scores of schools in sponsors' portfolios, despite the fact that sponsors do not have the ability to make curriculum decisions or choose school teachers and leaders.

"All I can do as a sponsor is say, 'You promised you were going to have a school that was going to perform at this level and so far you're not getting there.' I don't have the ability to go ahead make a direct impact on their performance," he said.

House District 16: Cuyahoga Councilman Faces Democratic Operative In Battle For Baker Seat

The race to replace term-limited Rep. Nan Baker (R-Westlake) for a seat in suburban Cleveland pits a Republican veteran of local government against a young native of the area with experience working in state and national politics.

Republican nominee Dave Greenspan, 51, of Westlake, is a member of Cuyahoga County Council who moved to Ohio in 2007 from the Atlanta area. He faces Democrat Tommy Greene, 28, a Bay Village native who is the son of a steelworker and a teacher's aide.

Neither candidate faced a primary challenge in the district, which leans Republican.

Mr. Greenspan touted his experience in local government and his ability to work across the aisle. A native of New Jersey who's lived in a number of states and attended Troy University in Alabama, he served on the inaugural city council in Sandy Springs, Ga., when the city was incorporated in 2005. After moving to the Cleveland area in 2007, he was elected to the first Cuyahoga County Council in 2010.

He immediately focused on ethics, chairing the council's ethics committee, he said.

"Coming into a new government, especially one coming out of such deep-rooted corruption, I felt it was very important that the residents and businesses of Cuyahoga County and Northeast Ohio knew that their government was going to be working for them," he said in an interview.

The married father of three doesn't just start up local governments. He has an accounting degree and has spent much of his career as a chief financial officer for a number of companies, mostly startup ventures. He's also been the chief operating officer for the PGA Tour radio network.

He now runs a small business, Green Elk Consulting Services, which provides financial and other advice to startup and turnaround businesses.

Mr. Greene is a graduate of Ohio University who has worked for Equality Ohio and interned for Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon). He now works in business development for North Water Partners, a company in the Ohio City area of Cleveland.

The Democrat grew up in Westlake and Bay Village. He said part of the reason he became interested in politics was because his father lost his job when the steel mill where he worked closed in 2001. Following that, his father took him to a rally that included Sen. Brown and former U.S. Rep. Dennis Kucinich.

"That's when I realized that when families are going through a hard time, they turn to their elected officials not for a handout or for them to answer all of their problems, but to be standing with them when things are going wrong and to be able to provide solutions to make the families a little bit stronger in the future," Mr. Greene said in an interview.

Families, through jobs and education policy, will be a focus for Mr. Greene.

"I kind of view my role as being able to strengthen Ohio's families," he said. "There's a handful of ways we can do that," including more oversight of charter schools. Education funding, particularly for public schools, will be a priority, he said.

He also said he wanted to see more infrastructure development, including pushes for Ohio to develop more clean energy products. Toledo could build more solar panels, for example, he said.

"We have a proud manufacturing history and Ohio has to be a place where we build things," he said. "We can't just be a 100% service sector economy. We have to be a manufacturing state in Ohio."

Mr. Greenspan said he has focused on a wide variety of issues during his time in public office, and believes a comprehensive approach is important. Education and drug problems are both tied to jobs.

A priority for the state, he said, is to develop a workforce of people who are able to do jobs and pass drug tests.

"We have to continue to develop what I refer to as a competent workforce. I think we all can agree that the state is continuing to move the needle in a positive direction toward workforce development," he said, but the work needs to continue.

He said he wants to see a "holistic, total" approach to the economy, one that includes focusing on education to produce good workers, luring in a wide variety of industries, and matching qualified workers with open positions.

"If you look at it in its totality, if you look at it as one big direction to move our state, it's my belief that all of those issues move us in a positive direction," he said.

"Unless you've lived this, unless you've served at the city level, unless you've served at the county level, it's hard to understand how these issues come together," he said.

Mr. Greene, who is openly gay, said nondiscrimination is also an economic development issue. When he worked for Equality Ohio, he said, one of his duties was to talk to executives about the need for nondiscrimination laws in order to recruit talented workers from other parts of the country.

"If Ohio is going to be open for business, we need to be open for talent," he said.

Mr. Greene said his campaign team has been organized and working in the community to spread his message.

"I'm out there every day talking to voters about how we're going to move our state forward," he said.

"I believe regular working families need an advocate in Columbus," he added.

Mr. Greenspan said he believes his experience as an elected official - particularly in a county council district that spans the same cities as the legislative district - sets him apart. He said he is also stressing his willingness to work across the aisle to get things done.

"We have to be able to all work together, collectively, to create the environment in our state to move in the right direction," he said.

His campaign has knocked on more than 27,000 doors already, he said.

"I've represented this district for nearly six years. I believe that I understand the opportunities and the challenges of the district," he said.

Buckeye Institute Calls For More Union Decertification Votes, Policy Matters Ohio Urges Lawmakers To Promote Unionization

In the wake of the Labor Day holiday, two groups offered competing visions on how to improve the lives of working Ohioans.

In a report released by the Buckeye Institute, the group proposed that Ohio lawmakers make it easier for state and local government employees to decertify their unions. Policy Matters Ohio, meanwhile, released a report calling for lawmakers to make it easier to join and form unions.

According to the Buckeye Institute's report, "One Man, One Vote, One Time? Re-election Votes Hold Unions Accountable to Their Members," there are more than 3,100 bargaining units covering about 300,000 state and local government employees across Ohio. However, most of those employees have had no say in their representation, it said.

"Ohio makes it very difficult for workers to have a voice in their unions," Robert Alt, Buckeye's president and CEO, said in a statement. "Under current law, the ability for union workers to hold an election is far more cumbersome than how we conduct our elections for public officials. And elections keep people accountable."

In the past three years, just 14 validly submitted decertification petitions have been submitted to the Employment Relations Board. Unions prevailed in three of those re-election efforts, the report found.

The report, however, said the decertification process is a cumbersome one, providing a 30-day window in which 50% of government employees in a bargaining unit need to sign a petition to trigger a vote.

"Just as voters hold their public officials accountable so, too, should workers be able to call for better representation," Rea Hederman Jr., executive vice president of The Buckeye Institute, said. "Ohio should follow the lead of other states by requiring their government unions to regularly stand for re-election, which will only improve their responsiveness to member needs."

The report goes on to list several complaints unionized employees have with their bargaining units, including dues spent on political activities, leaders' salaries and "insufficient" leadership elections.

"Union members should have the freedom to regularly decide whether to remain unionized. Such re-election votes would make unions more accountable to their members," the report concludes. "They would force union leaders to serve their members' interests instead of pursuing their own priorities. Workers deserve the ability to hold their union regularly accountable. Meaningful representation does not mean one man, one vote, one time."

But in its report, "Still struggling: State of Working Ohio 2016," Policy Matters Ohio says lawmakers should be promoting unionization.

Unionized workers in Ohio made about \$4 more per hour than their non-unionized counterparts in 2015, according to the report.

"Unions improve wages but Ohio's legislators and governor have often taken steps to weaken unions and reduce the number of workers who can get the protection, training and compensation benefits that come with being a member of a labor union. In order to broaden unionization in Ohio, the state should reject the misnamed 'right-to-work' initiative - states that take this approach end up with lower wages," the report reads

"Ohio should also allow home health workers and childcare workers to become part of a union - two particularly important and low-wage occupations that were once promised the right to organize into unions. For both groups, Gov. Kasich has eliminated the right to join a union and bargain collectively."

The report goes on to state that unions can reduce inequality for black and female workers. It found that black unionized workers make \$4.31 more per hour than their non-unionized counterparts while women in unions make \$3.91 more per hour.

"Ensuring that more workers can join unions will better spread the benefits of unionization," the report states.

State Board Looking To Help 2,000 Displaced Ohio ITT Students

ITT Technical Institute's parent company announced Tuesday it is pulling the plug on its 137 campuses across the country, officially displacing about 2,000 Ohio students and an unknown number of employees.

Left to help fill in the gap is the Ohio State Board of Career Colleges and Schools, which is stepping in to ensure displaced students aren't left behind by the closure of the Indiana-based company that served nearly 45,000 students in 38 states.

"This is going to be a difficult process I'm sure, but we'll continue to work with the students," Board Executive Director John Ware said in an interview.

The closure had been expected ever since the federal government late last month unveiled an array of penalties, including banning the school from enrolling students with federal financial aid, after the school was found to be out of compliance with accreditation criteria.

The company on Tuesday confirmed that after assessing its options, the sanctions were deemed a death knell.

"It is with profound regret that we must report that ITT Educational Services, Inc. will discontinue academic operations at all of its ITT Technical Institutes permanently after approximately 50 years of continuous service," the company announced in a press release.

"With what we believe is a complete disregard by the U.S. Department of Education for due process to the company, hundreds of thousands of current students and alumni and more than 8,000 employees will be negatively affected."

As of Tuesday, the company had already eliminated the "overwhelming majority" of its employees and said remaining staff members are prioritizing helping displaced students determine their options.

The state board has been working on contingency plans for the students enrolled at ITT's nine Ohio campuses since the August penalties were announced, Mr. Ware said. The fact that those campuses are spread out across all corners of the state poses a particular challenge, he added.

He said the board has been working to enlist other schools for teach-out agreements in which case the school would agree to accept displaced students' ITT credits and any related financial aid. The board will be emailing a list of those schools to students this week, he said.

"Sometimes it depends on how far along in their program they are and what program they are in so we'll have to figure that out for each student - what they need to do," he said.

Alternately, he said, the board will work to connect students unable to continue their program elsewhere with the U.S. Department of Education where they could receive a loan discharge.

"We'll work with ITT to make sure students have access to their transcripts and records and anything like that the students would need going forward," Mr. Ware said. "We've already had communication about this and I know ITT was going to send an email with some of this information out to their students sometime today."

ITT's closure is the latest result of a crackdown of the federal government on for-profit colleges, although Mr. Ware said most previous closures "have been more orderly than this."

"It's been a painful process," he said.

Among the penalties levied against ITT was a requirement the company increase its existing surety from \$94 million to more than \$240 million - or 40% of all Title IV aid the school received in 2015 payable in full. The company pointed to that stipulation specifically as to why it is unable to continue operations.

"We believe the government's action was inappropriate and unconstitutional, however, with the ITT Technical Institutes ceasing operations, it will now likely rest on other parties to understand these reprehensible actions and to take action to attempt to prevent this from happening again," the company said.

In a message to ITT students, U.S. Education Secretary John King acknowledged the news will have a "deeply personal" impact on affected students and, vowing to support students as they work through their options, encouraged students to not give up on their education.

Ohio Sees Drop In Obesity Rate, But Trends Show Continued Rise In Diabetes, Hypertension, Report Says

Ohio was one of four states that saw its obesity rate fall in 2015; according to a report from the Trust for America's Health and the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation.

The Buckeye State ranked 26th in the U.S. with an adult obesity rate of 29.8%. That's down from 32.6% a year earlier.

Although Ohio saw a drop year-over-year, the rate was still well above what it was a decade earlier, when 24.9% of Ohio adults suffered from obesity, according to the report. In 1995, the rate was 16.1%.

The drop in Ohio and three other states - Minnesota, Montana and New York - was the first time in the last decade that any states experienced decreases except for Washington, D.C., in 2010.

Louisiana had the highest rate of obesity at 36.2%, while Colorado had the lowest at 20.2%.

Ohio had the 14th highest rate of obesity among children ages 10-17, at 17.4%, and was 35th in obesity for children ages 2-4 from low-income families, with 12.4%.

The report also cited a number of obesity-related health issues. Ohio was 17th in adult diabetes, with 11% of adults suffering from the disease. That number was down from a year before, but the overall trend remains upward - Ohio is expected to go from just over 1 million cases of diabetes in 2010 to nearly 1.6 million in 2030 at its current pace.

Even more Ohio adults suffer from hypertension. Ohio was 13th in that category, with 34.3% of adults having the condition. The number of cases is expected to rise from 2.3 million in 2010 to nearly 3.1 million in 2030 at its current pace.

Cases of heart disease and obesity-related cancer are both expected to rise dramatically over the next two decades, the report said, while arthritis cases are likely to decrease.

The State Health Assessment cited obesity among the chronic conditions that pose serious health risks to the state. That report cited links between obesity and other chronic conditions, and noted the racial and geographic disparities among them. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 22, 2016)

The SHA found obesity to be a problem cited by public health experts in all areas of the state and among a wide variety of different groups. The report cited nutrition and physical activity as possible contributing factors and opportunities for improvement.

"Although Ohio's high prevalence of obesity and diabetes indicate that much more progress is needed on physical activity, this assessment finds that Ohio has some strengths in this area," the SHA said. "First, the percent of Ohio adults reporting no leisure-time physical activity declined from 2013 to 2014 and met the Healthy People 2020 target. Second, regional forum participants in most areas of the state identified their active living environments as a characteristic that made them proud of their

community, and all regions identified a positive active living environment as one of the most important characteristics of a healthy county or region."

The Trust for America's Health report on obesity also found racial disparities in obesity. Among white Ohioans, the rate of obesity was 30.5%, while it was 37.1% among black Ohioans.

The gap was narrow between men and women, with 30.5% of men and 29.7% of women. For different age groups, it was wider, with the obesity rate among Ohioans 45-64 at 36.3%, compared to 29% for those 65 and older, 27.9% for those 26 to 44 and 17.8% for those 18-25.

Dana Schmersal, a spokeswoman for Voices for Ohio's Children, said policymakers should continue to work on programs to improve childhood nutrition.

"We are very glad to see the downward trend for childhood obesity rates in Ohio," she said in an email. "Child nutrition, however, remains a key issue across the state as both obesity and food insecurity impact far too many Ohio families, leaving our state to face the expensive cognitive, behavioral, educational, economic and health consequences that follow. Of course, it is not enough to make food more accessible and nutritious - we must work with schools, child care providers, and communities to ensure that meals are consistent with a healthier lifestyle supported by comprehensive health and physical education inside and outside of the classroom."

Trump, Clinton Spend Holiday Campaigning In Ohio

GOP nominee Donald Trump and Democratic nominee Hillary Clinton ventured back to the Buckeye State Monday as they continued to court voters.

Ms. Clinton spoke at a Cleveland rally, where she and vice presidential candidate Tim Kaine stressed the importance of the state in the electoral landscape.

"You're used to this," Sen. Kaine told Ohio voters, saying the election has entered the "home stretch."

"You're used to the fact that you're one of the two or three most important states in any presidential election going back since there were presidential elections," he said.

In her remarks to the crowd, Ms. Clinton again questioned Mr. Trump's suitability for the office of president. She also touted a newly announced book, written by herself and Sen. Kaine, called "Stronger Together" that will showcase their plan for the future.

"We are stronger together, and that is in stark contrast to Donald Trump," she said. "When he says, 'I alone can fix it,' he doesn't understand how America works."

Mr. Trump that same day participated in a labor roundtable Monday at a Brook Park American Legion post. Media access was limited at the event, which was only first announced that morning.

"I was happy to show Mr. Trump first-hand some of the challenges that we have faced in Northeast Ohio, with local plants shutting down and jobs leaving for overseas," Brook Park Mayor Tom Coyne said in a statement released by the campaign. "Mr. Trump speaks our language, I think he's more comfortable talking to labor and working class people than he is talking to bankers, and it shows."

Mr. Trump then attended the Canfield Fair, while at the same time Clinton surrogates launched attacks seeking to undermine Mr. Trump's attempt to draw blue-collar support.

"Hillary Clinton knows that America is already great because of your hard work, because of your values, your integrity," AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka told those at the fair. "She knows that our economy is strongest when we can band together and negotiate for better wages, better benefits and better working conditions. She wants to rewrite the rules of the economy so that working people win and not just billionaires, like Donald Trump, win."

The Clinton campaign on Tuesday evening is scheduled to open its latest organizing office, this one in Delaware County. The campaign has launched more than three dozen such offices across the state.

Mr. Trump, meanwhile, rated two points above Ms. Clinton in a Tuesday national poll from CNN/ORC. Mr. Trump earned 45% to Ms. Clinton's 43%, putting the pair at a statistical tie when accounting for the margin of error.

Libertarian Gary Johnson and Green Party candidate Jill Stein earned 7% and 2% respectively in that survey.

Democratic PAC Cancels \$3M More In Strickland Ads; Nicklaus Backs Portman

A national super PAC has canceled \$3 million worth of additional ads it planned to air supporting U.S. Senate candidate Ted Strickland.

The Senate Majority PAC announced the additional cuts Tuesday - the second such reduction the group has made in the last month. A spokesman said the group was seeking to "maximize resources."

The group had already scrapped ads set for later this month. But the additional cuts for ads previously set to air between Sept. 20-Oct. 10 mean the PAC will have no pro-Strickland advertising on Ohio airwaves until October at the earliest.

Strickland campaign spokesman David Bergstein in a statement downplayed the move, which is seen as the latest sign of Mr. Strickland losing ground to his opponent U.S. Sen. Rob Portman, saying "there's still a lot of race left to run."

"We just recently launched our paid media campaign, the national environment is rapidly deteriorating around Portman, he's facing a daily firestorm about his continued support for Trump - and Portman's small, weak field operation can't compete with the Ohio Democratic Party's coordinated field campaign which has hundreds of organizers and volunteers across the state working to elect Ted, Secretary Clinton and Democrats at every level," Mr. Bergstein said.

"Ted's going to do what he does best: campaign vigorously across Ohio, talking about the central contrast in this race - he's fighting for working people because that where he comes from and that's who he cares about, while Senator Portman is looking out for his rich and powerful friends," he continued.

The PAC had already cancelled about \$191,000 worth of ads previously intended to run between Sept. 6-19. At the same time, the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee announced it was pushing back the launch of its own ads by one week, cancelling about \$500,000 in reserved airtime in September and moving that money to support the campaign's own advertising. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 30, 2016)

The network run by brothers and GOP donors Charles and David Koch then announced they had cancelled pro-Portman ads to the tune of \$2.1 million. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 31, 2016)

The Ohio Democratic Party and U.S. Rep. Tim Ryan (D-Niles) came to the former governor's defense Tuesday at a press conference blasting Sen. Portman for "turning his back" on the auto industry.

"It's the central contrast in this race: Ted is fighting for Ohio's working families, while Sen. Portman is pushing the agenda of his rich and powerful friends in Washington," Rep. Ryan said. "We need someone who represents our values. It's pretty simple - working families need Ted Strickland in the U.S. Senate."

Mr. Strickland did land the endorsement of the Sierra Club Tuesday, which in turn drew the ire of the Ohio Coal Association which released a statement criticizing Mr. Strickland's stance on coal.

Sen. Portman, meanwhile, enlisted the help of famed golfer Jack Nicklaus with a new ad that is part of a \$15 million ad campaign that has already begun to air.

"Rob is the real deal, he's making a difference in standing up for American manufacturing, and he's fighting to strengthen our military to keep us safe. Rob Portman is Ohio's champion," Mr. Nicklaus says in the ad.

The Portman campaign used the Ohio State University football opener Saturday and a related Snapchat filter to expand its outreach to students and fans.

"We are proud to work with our impressive Students for Portman group, which is organized on more than 30 campuses and has helped us contact more than 3.5 million targeted voters," Portman campaign spokeswoman Michawn Rich said. "The coalition is helping ensure Rob's message of pro-growth policies for better wages and more jobs reaches students across Ohio during this campaign."

From Congress: Brown, Portman Praise Trade Ruling On Steel; Kaptur Welcomes \$2M In Housing Funds; Latta Tours OSU Radio Optics Lab...

Ohio's U.S. senators praised a recent International Trade Commission finding that the country's steel industry has been hurt by cold-rolled steel imports from other countries.

The ITC determined imports from Brazil, India, South Korea and the United Kingdom have all played a role in harming the industry, but stopped short of listing Russia as having engaged in unfair trade practices.

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) and U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Avon) both welcomed the ITC's determination, with Sen. Portman in a statement calling the situation facing Ohio's steelworkers a "crisis."

"Nearly 1,500 Ohio steelworkers were laid off last year through no fault of their own," Sen. Portman said. "Today the ITC recognized exactly what I told them: that unfair, dishonest practices from competitors in these countries are hurting our communities. Our work is far from over, but today's ruling is another step in leveling the playing field, and it is another win for Ohio steelworkers."

Sen. Brown said unfair trade practices are threatening the stability of that and other industries. He had previously advocated that Russia be included in the ITC investigation.

"When other countries don't play by the rules, the U.S. government must take action to protect American manufacturers," Sen. Brown said. "It's disappointing that the ITC did not recognize Russia's unfair trade practices, but the enforcement of antidumping and countervailing duties on cold-rolled steel imports from Brazil, India, South Korea, and the United Kingdom is a good step forward in providing the steel industry with the relief it needs."

In other trade news, Sen. Portman last week criticized the European Union's ruling that Apple owes \$14 billion in back taxes, saying the ruling highlights the need for international tax reform.

"Retroactive taxes not based in the rule of law are an attack on all U.S. companies doing business globally," the senator said. "The Commission is blatantly attempting to take advantage of the antiquated U.S. international tax system, and at the end of the day, it's

U.S. taxpayers footing the bill. This decision is another indicator of the urgent need for international tax reform."

Housing: U.S. Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Toledo) applauded the recent award of more than \$2.1 million toward Cuyahoga County homeless veteran support.

The Department of Veterans Affairs announced the award to Cleveland-based Frontline Service to support "Operation Cleveland Home Front," a program that provides transitional housing to veterans and their families.

"No one who has served our country with dignity and honor should face the indignity of being without adequate shelter," Rep. Kaptur said, adding that the program "offers veterans and their families a helping hand through transitional, temporary housing, a chance that offers hope and the prospects of a second chance to make a better life for themselves and their families. These brave men and women served our country, and this support program is our service in return."

Technology: U.S. Rep. Bob Latta (R-Bowling Green) praised Ohio State University's ElectroScience Lab during a recent tour of the facility. The lab is one of the largest radio frequency optics research laboratories in the world.

"The work they are doing at the ElectroScience Lab is pushing the limits in advancing technology," Rep. Latta said. "The research that is being conducted will pay countless dividends in the wireless communication and radio frequency fields."

Piketon: Sens. Brown and Portman continue their efforts to secure funding for the ongoing cleanup of the Portsmouth Gaseous Diffusion Plant.

The two earlier this month asked Senate appropriators to include funding for the project in any short-term continuing resolution considered by the upper chamber. Continued funding for the effort, they said, is in jeopardy because the 2017 Energy and Water Appropriations bill passed by the Senate, which includes the funding, has not yet received House action.

"Portsmouth's D&D efforts are an integral part of the Department of Energy's commitment to the people of southern Ohio," the pair wrote to the Senate Appropriations Committee. "Continued operations at the present level are an essential part of that commitment."

Backpage: Sen. Portman chalked up another victory in lawmakers' ongoing legal proceedings against Backpage.com.

Sen. Portman and Sen. Claire McCaskill (D-Mo.) as leaders of the Senate Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations have long been focused on an uncooperative Backpage in their attempt to determine the website's role in facilitating sex trafficking.

In the latest development, the D.C. Circuit Court denied Backpage's request for a stay, meaning the company must now turn over all documents that have been subpoenaed to the committee within 10 days.

"Today's ruling is a major step forward in our efforts to stop the scourge of online human trafficking and stand up for its thousands of innocent victims across the United States," Sen. Portman said. "With this decision, we look forward to examining the subpoenaed documents that Backpage has withheld. We are committed to continuing our bipartisan investigation and ensuring that our laws effectively protect the most vulnerable from sex traffickers and businesses that aid them."

Coal: Sen. Brown welcomed more than \$1 million in federal relief funding to Ohio miners and their families that have experienced layoffs.

The Department of Labor announced the funding to the Ohio Department of Job and Family Services this month to fund reemployment efforts for those workers. The award brings Ohio's total federal funding to \$2 million, including a \$916,250 grant from 2015.

"The changing coal economy has put some workers out of a job through no fault of their own," Sen. Brown said. "This grant will give Ohio the tools to continue its support for displaced workers and help them get back on their feet."

Drugs: Sen. Portman joined Walgreens workers as they unveiled 18 drug take-back kiosks for their Ohio stores.

In a Toledo press conference, the lawmaker voiced his support for the effort announced in February, which will culminate in the kiosks being placed in 500 of the chain's stores across the country.

"Addiction to prescription painkillers has reached epidemic levels in Ohio and across the country," Sen. Portman said. "Fighting back against this epidemic will require all of us working together at the federal, state, and local community level."

Women's Summit: Sen. Brown announced the second annual Women's Leadership Summit will take place at 9 a.m. Saturday at the Global Center for Health Innovation in Cleveland. For more information and a list of speakers visit the event's website.

"Ohio women are achieving remarkable things, and we must build on their success so all women can have an opportunity to succeed," Sen. Brown said. "The Women's Leadership Summit aims to celebrate the accomplishments of women and highlight strategies for overcoming obstacles to success."

Court Briefs: Court Rules Meigs County Charter Proposal Should Move Forward; Man Injured At Basketball Game Loses Case; Attorneys Reprimanded...

Voters in Meigs County could soon have the opportunity to change their form of government.

The Ohio Supreme Court on Tuesday ruled that the county's board of commissioners erred by not approving a resolution to place a charter amendment on the ballot in 2015.

The 4-3 per curiam decision reverses a Fourth District Court of Appeals ruling.

The commissioners received a letter from the board of elections on July 2, 2015 stating that a petition filed by Meigs County Home Rule Committee had a sufficient number of valid signatures to be placed on the November ballot, the court reported.

However, the commissioners in a July 9 letter back to the board said the July 2 letter was incomplete and lacked certain information. In a special meeting on July 14, the commissioners failed to certify the issue for the ballot because they said the board of elections failed to meet the deadline to submit a report at least 120 days prior to the election.

"But even if the first letter were insufficient, when the board of elections ultimately certifies the validity of a petition and the delay was not the fault of the initiative's supporters, a writ of mandamus will issue to place the matter on the ballot. Any other result would be unfair and thwart the constitutional right of initiative," the court wrote in its decision.

Citing a 2015 case in which Secretary of State Jon Husted invalidated a county charter initiative on the grounds that the proponents did not propose a form of county government, the commissioners argued that committee also failed to propose a form of county government.

However, the court found that is a determination for Secretary Husted to make.

"We will not intrude into the process before the secretary has had a chance to exercise his discretion," the majority wrote.

Chief Justice Maureen O'Connor and Justices Judith Ann Lanzinger, Judith French and Bill O'Neill constituted the majority.

Justices Paul Pfeiffer and Sharon Kennedy joined a dissenting opinion in which Justice Terrence O'Donnell sided with the appellate court.

Injury: A man who was injured as he attempted to sit in a seat that broke and dropped to the ground at a University of Akron basketball game will receive no financial compensation, the Court of Claims ruled.

The court found that Raymond Williams failed to prove that the university did not exercise ordinary or reasonable care and denied his claim for \$10,000 in damages.

Mr. Williams claimed the fall resulted in more than \$5,000 in medical bills; the Ohio Supreme Court reported:

However, a university investigation found that Mr. Williams told a responding usher and supervisor that he did not fall because he caught himself as the chair broke and that he declined medical attention at the time.

Reprimands: The Ohio Supreme Court has issued three public reprimands:

- Justin E. Fernandez of Cincinnati for allegedly neglecting a client's legal matter and the improper use of an out-of-state company to provide paralegal and paraprofessional services.
- Steven B. Beranek of Medina for allegedly failing to inform his clients that he did not have professional liability coverage.
- Patrick L. Clifton of Crestview Hills, Kentucky for allegedly violating the rule that prohibits a lawyer from knowingly making a false statement to a tribunal and engaging in conduct involving dishonesty, fraud, deceit or misrepresentation.

Conviction: The Bureau of Workers' Compensation announced the conviction of a man a Toledo man who used a fake identity to collect benefits.

David Abitua, 51, pleaded guilty Aug. 18 in Franklin County Common Pleas Court to one fifth-degree felony count of workers' compensation fraud, according to BWC.

"If you try to cheat the workers' compensation system, even while hiding under a false identity, we will find you and prosecute you to the fullest extent of the law," Sarah Morrison, Administrator/CEO for the BWC, said in a statement. "Workers' compensation fraud raises costs for everyone in the system and diverts resources needed for injured workers and making Ohio workplaces safer."

Using a false Social Security number and the alias of Jose L. Vasquez, Mr. Abitua collected injured workers' benefits from November 2009 until October 2012.

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Thursday, September 8

Broadcast Educational Media Commission, 2470 North Star Road, Columbus, 10 a.m.
Children's Trust Fund, 77 South High Street, 13th Floor East Conference Room, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Wednesday, September 7

House Democrats legislative agenda news conference, West Steps, Statehouse, Columbus, 11 a.m.

Release of August casino revenue figures, 1:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 11

Rep. Kyle Koehler (R-Springfield) fundraiser, Echo Ridge Farm, 4674 Hominy Ridge Rd., Springfield, 2 p.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Partner: \$350 to Citizens to Elect Kyle Koehler)

Thursday, September 29

Sen. Bill Coley (R-Liberty Twp.) fundraiser, Keller residence, 8325 Princeton Road, Liberty Twp., 6 p.m., (\$1,000 Event Host | \$500 Event Chair | \$250 Event Sponsor | \$100 Individual to Friends of Bill Coley)

Monday, October 10

Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering) fundraiser, K-12 Gallery and TEJAS, 341 S Jefferson St., Dayton, 5 p.m., (Special Guest: Sen. Obhof. \$2,500 Michelangelo Sponsor | \$1,000 Van Gogh Sponsor | \$500 Picasso Sponsor | \$150 per Couple | \$100 per Individual to Citizens for Lehner)

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Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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House Activity for Tuesday, September 6, 2016

INTRODUCED

HB 594

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS (Roegner, K.) Regarding public moneys returned to the state as a result of a finding of recovery issued pursuant to an audit of a community school. Am. 3314.52

HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

State Audit Committee: Ranjan Manoranjan

Ohio Public Employees Deferred Compensation Board: Rep. Boggs

Task Force for Creating Opportunities for Shared Governance on Co-Located Campuses:
Representative Schuring; Dr. Para M. Jones and Natasha Pollock

Insurance Committee: Appoint Rep. Brinkman as chair

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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, September 7

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

Board of Building Appeals, Ohio Department of Transportation, District Three Office, Conference Room, 906 Clark Avenue, Ashland, 8:30 a.m.
Board of Building Standards, 6606 Tussing Road, Training Room 1, Reynoldsburg, 9 a.m. (Code Committee)
Real Estate Commission, Division of Real Estate and Professional Licensing, 77 South High Street, 22nd Floor, Columbus, 9 a.m.
Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation, 100 S. High St., Hillsboro, 9 a.m. (Agriculture Development Committee)
Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Release Compensation Board, 50 West Broad Street - Suite 1500, Columbus, 10 a.m.
State Personnel Board of Review, 65 E. State St., 12th Fl., Columbus, 10 a.m.
Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

Sen. Bill Beagle (R-Tipp City) & Sen. Bob Peterson (R-Sabina) golf outing fundraiser, County Club at Muirfield Village, 8715 Muirfield Drive, Dublin, 8:30 a.m., (\$1,000 Total Contribution. Golfers pay for their own golf. Please make separate checks for \$500 each payable to Citizens for Bill Beagle & Peterson for Good Government)
House Democrats legislative agenda news conference, West Steps, Statehouse, Columbus, 11 a.m.
Rep. Scott Ryan (R-Newark) and Rep. Rob McColley (R-Napoleon) fundraiser, Due Amici, 65 E. Gay Street, Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$1,000; Sponsor: \$500; Host: \$350 to Citizens for Scott Ryan and/or Citizens for McColley)
Release of August casino revenue figures, 1:30 p.m.
Sen. Jim Hughes (R-Columbus) fundraiser, Victory's, 543 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500, Host: \$1,500, Patron: \$1,000 to Committee for Jim Hughes)

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From: Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov
Sent: Wednesday, September 7, 2016 7:58 AM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Re: Follow-up

Thanks Grace. See you later today!

FYI, the presentation to Controlling Board on the Troopers agreement isn't until the 9/26 meeting. Do you anticipate Rep. Kunze filling in then as well? I only ask so we can get in to see her as well ahead of that meeting.

Many thanks!

Sent from my iPhone

On Sep 6, 2016, at 5:08 PM, "Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov"
<Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

Sounds good, Patrick. While Rep. Kunze will be serving on the upcoming CB, it will still be helpful to have this briefing with Rep. Smith. We'll see you tomorrow on the 13th floor.

Thanks again,
Grace

From: Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov [<mailto:Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov>]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 4:41 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: RE: Follow-up

Grace:

Next Wednesday, 9/7 at 1:30 pm works on my end. I assume this is the meeting we discussed to brief Chairman Smith on tentative agreement reached with the Ohio State Troopers Association (OSTA)?

As usual, I will have my staff from the DAS Office of Collective Bargaining with me to assist with the briefing.

Many thanks,

Patrick Smith

From: Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov [mailto:Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 02, 2016 3:25 PM
To: Smith, Patrick <Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov>
Subject: RE: Follow-up

Hey Patrick,

Thanks for passing along the info. Would you be available to meet next Wednesday either at 1:30 or 3pm?

Thanks!
Grace

From: Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov [mailto:Patrick.Smith@das.ohio.gov]
Sent: Thursday, September 01, 2016 4:56 PM
To: Snider, Grace
Subject: Follow-up

Grace – per our conversation, see page two of the attached. This is what we shared when the turnstiles went live.

Sorry for your frustration, I always appreciate the opportunity to talk with you and try and help whenever possible.

All the best,

Patrick

Patrick Smith
Deputy Chief of Staff
Office of the Director
614-995-0936
patrick.smith@das.ohio.gov

<image001.png>

*How are we doing?
Please take our brief customer
service survey by clicking [here](#).*

From: Kasych, Shawn
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 5:35 PM
To: 'Cassie (Gaffney) Batson'; Rep91; Rep48; Rep93
CC: Derksen, Nick; Snider, Grace; Lundregan, Scott; Zielinski, Justin; Adrian Allison; Dan Good - Superintendent; David James; David Quolke; David Romick; Druant; Eric S. Gordon; Julie Sellers; Kevin Dalton; Krish Mohip; Larry Ellis; Mary Ronan; Pat Shipe; Paul Palomba; Rhonda Corr; Tracey Johnson; Lori McClung; Scarlett Boudier
Subject: RE: Education Policy Summit Follow Up

Extremely helpful Cassie!

Thanks so much again for your organization's participation. Never hesitate to contact me.

Shawn Kasych
Majority Policy Director
614.466.0863

From: Cassie (Gaffney) Batson [mailto:cassie@advocacyandcommunication.org]
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep48 <Rep48@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep93 <Rep93@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: Derksen, Nick <Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov>; Kasych, Shawn <Shawn.Kasych@ohiohouse.gov>; Snider, Grace <Grace.Snider@ohiohouse.gov>; Lundregan, Scott <Scott.Lundregan@ohiohouse.gov>; Zielinski, Justin <Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov>; Adrian Allison <allison_a@ccsdistrict.org>; Dan Good - Superintendent <superintendent@columbus.k12.oh.us>; David James <djames@akron.k12.oh.us>; David Quolke <dquolke@ameritech.net>; David Romick <DARomick@dps.k12.oh.us>; Druant <rdurant@tps.org>; Eric S. Gordon <Eric.Gordon@clevelandmetroschools.org>; Julie Sellers <jsellers@cft-aft.org>; Kevin Dalton <kevin.dalton.tft@gmail.com>; Krish Mohip <Krish.Mohip@youngstown.k12.oh.us>; Larry Ellis <yeaellis@aol.com>; Mary Ronan <ronanma@cpsboe.k12.oh.us>; Pat Shipe <pshipe@akronteach.org>; Paul Palomba <palomba8532@yahoo.com>; Rhonda Corr <RACorr@dps.k12.oh.us>; Tracey Johnson <johnsont@ceaohio.org>; Lori McClung <lori@advocacyandcommunication.org>; Scarlett Boudier <scarlett@advocacyandcommunication.org>
Subject: Education Policy Summit Follow Up

Good afternoon

On behalf of the Ohio 8 Coalition please see the attached memo following up on Speaker Rosenberger's Education Policy Summit on October 21, 2016.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--
Cassie (Gaffney) Batson
Strategist
Advocacy & Communication Solutions, LLC
Offices in Ohio, Arizona, and Washington, D.C.
Toll-free: 877.372.0166, ext. 5
Cell: 440.292.5012
Cassie@advocacyandcommunication.org
www.advocacyandcommunication.org
Follow us on [LinkedIn](#) and [Medium](#)



2015 Marcom Award Winner 2015 Weatherhead 100 Upstart Winner

From: Derksen, Nick
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:23 PM
To: 'Cassie (Gaffney) Batson'; Rep91; Rep48; Rep93
CC: Kasych, Shawn; Snider, Grace; Lundregan, Scott; Zielinski, Justin; Adrian Allison; Dan Good - Superintendent; David James; David Quolke; David Romick; Druant; Eric S. Gordon; Julie Sellers; Kevin Dalton; Krish Mohip; Larry Ellis; Mary Ronan; Pat Shipe; Paul Palomba; Rhonda Corr; Tracey Johnson; Lori McClung; Scarlett Boudier
Subject: RE: Education Policy Summit Follow Up

Good evening Cassie,

Thank you very much for sending along these recommendations for The Ohio 8's participation in the Education Policy Summit.

Look forward to continued discussions moving forward.

Best,

Nick
614-466-2361
Nick.Derksen@ohiohouse.gov

From: Cassie (Gaffney) Batson [mailto:cassie@advocacyandcommunication.org]
Sent: Wednesday, November 09, 2016 5:23 PM
To: Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep48 <Rep48@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep93 <Rep93@ohiohouse.gov>
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<lori@advocacyandcommunication.org>; Scarlett Boudier
<scarlett@advocacyandcommunication.org>
Subject: Education Policy Summit Follow Up

Good afternoon

On behalf of the Ohio 8 Coalition please see the attached memo following up on
Speaker Rosenberger's Education Policy Summit on October 21, 2016.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

--
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2015 Marcom Award Winner 2015 Weatherhead 100 Upstart Winner

From: Finance Committee
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 4:57 PM
To: Stepp, Taylor
Subject: Revised 1X - Finance Committee Notice 11/16/16
Attachments: 11.16.2016 Finance Committee Notice.pdf

****Changes in Red****

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMMITTEE MEETING

COMMITTEE: Finance
CHAIR: Ryan Smith
DATE: Wednesday, November 16th, 2016
TIME: 9:00 AM
ROOM: Room 313

AGENDA

<u>BILL</u>	<u>SPONSOR</u>	<u>TITLE</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
HB 583	Rep. Becker	Limit applicability of Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act	Pos. Re-referral
SB 235	Sen. Coley and Sen. Beagle	Industrial/commercial development-tax exempt until construction begins	2nd Hearing All Testimony
HR 282	Rep. Howse and Ramos	To support efforts to ensure that students from Ohio have access to debt-free higher education at public colleges and universities	1st Hearing Spon. Testimony
HB 492	Rep. Rogers and Rep. Driehaus	Supplemental State Capital Improvements Pilot Program	1st Hearing Spon. Testimony
HJR 5	Rep. Lepore- Hagan		1st Hearing Spon. Testimony

And Rep. Smith, K. Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund sewer and water capital improvements

HB 67

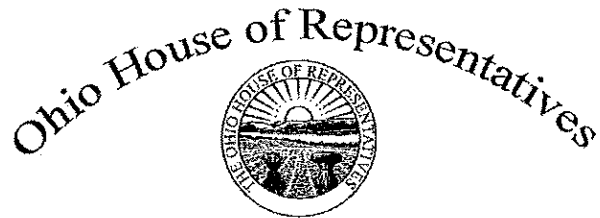
1st Hearing
Spon. Testimony

Rep. Ramos

Medical research grants-terminal, chronic, incurable diseases

Additional Information

****Changes in Red****



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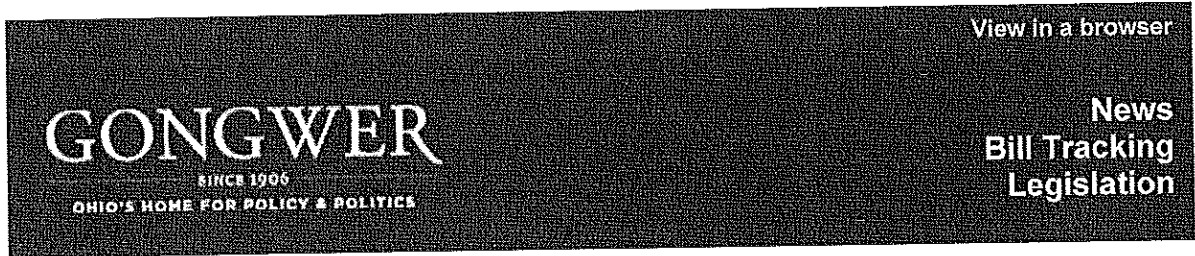
Rep. Ramos

Medical research grants-terminal,
chronic, incurable diseases

1st Hearing
Spon. Testimony

Additional Information

From: gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com on behalf of Gongwer News Service
[gongwerreports@gongwer-oh.com]
Sent: Wednesday, November 16, 2016 3:23 PM
To: Standard_Subscriber_misc_html@gongwer-oh.com
Subject: House Floor Report



HOUSE ACTIVITY REPORT

INTRODUCED AND REFERRED

HCR 38

CANCER CENTER (Conditt, M., Dever, J.)
To express support for the Proton Therapy Center at Cincinnati Children's Hospital and to urge that it be recognized by the National Cancer Institute as a Designated Cancer Center.

PASSED

SB 252

CARDIAC ARREST (Hite, C., Patton, T.)
With regard to sudden cardiac arrest in youth athletic activities.
86-4 (Brinkman, Dean, Hood & Vitale)

HB 533

AWARENESS MONTH (Sprague, R.)
To designate the month of May as

"Neurofibromatosis Awareness Month."

91-0

HB 535

MILITARY BENEFITS (Perales, R.)

To extend employment and reemployment protection to a person who is a member of another state's national guard or organized militia and who is employed in Ohio.

93-0

CALENDAR FOR COMING SESSION

SB 225

AWARENESS DAY (Bacon, K.)

To designate the first day of June as "Hypoparathyroidism Awareness Day."

Thursday, Nov. 17

HB 270

OVERDOSE DEATHS (Dever, J., Pelanda, D.)

To provide that causing the death of another person by an overdose that results from the offender's sale, distribution, dispensation, or administration of a controlled substance or controlled substance analog is a violation of the offense of involuntary manslaughter and to make this provision a strict liability offense.

Thursday, Nov. 17

HB 520

RETIREMENT SYSTEMS (Schuring, K., Ramos, D.)

To revise the law governing the state's public retirement systems.

Thursday, Nov. 17

HOUSE CONCURS IN SENATE AMENDMENTS

HB 300

LICENSE SUSPENSIONS (Baker, N., Manning, N.)

To modify the law governing the termination or modification of a lifetime driver's license suspension or a class two suspension that exceeds fifteen years, to specify that a class one driver's license suspension for a specified aggravated vehicular homicide offense begins upon the offender's release from prison, and to expand the purposes for which limited driving privileges may be granted during a driver's license suspension.

89-0

HOUSE ELECTS MEMBER

WES GOODMAN, REPUBLICAN, 87TH DISTRICT

CANDICE KELLER, REPUBLICAN, 53RD DISTRICT

REFERRED

Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety

HB 615

MILITARY LICENSE PLATES (Johnson, G.)

To allow a military veteran license plate to include the names of multiple military operations on one license plate.

Community & Family Advancement

HB 618

RECORD EXPUNGEMENT (Schuring, K., Reece, A.)

To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity.

Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development

HB 616

BANKING LAW (Amstutz, R.)

For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio.

Government Accountability & Oversight

HJR 9

GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)

Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission relative to the issuance of general obligation bonds to pay the costs of facilities for mental health and developmental disabilities, parks and recreation, and housing of agencies of state government.

HJR 10

OBSOLETE BOND PROVISIONS (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)

Proposing to enact Section 18 of Article VIII and to repeal Sections 2b, 2c, 2d, 2e, 2f, 2g, 2h, 2j, and 2k of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission that obsolete bond-authorizing provisions be eliminated.

HJR 11**SINKING FUND (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)**

Proposing to amend Section 2 and to repeal Sections 7, 8, 9, 10, and 11 of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission that certain provisions concerning the sinking fund and the Sinking Fund Commission be eliminated.

HJR 12**COURTS OF CONCILIATION (Amstutz, R., Curtin, M.)**

Proposing to repeal Sections 19 and 22 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to adopt the recommendation of the Ohio Constitutional Modernization Commission to eliminate the authority of the General Assembly to establish courts of conciliation and to eliminate the authority of the Governor to appoint a supreme court commission.

HB 613**SUNSET REVIEW LAW (Amstutz, R.)**

To revise and renew the Sunset Review Law, to require that a Sunset Review Committee be convened to function during each oddnumbered General Assembly, and to declare an emergency.

HB 617**BOARD CONSOLIDATIONS (LaTourette, S.)**

To require the Director of Administrative Services to review referred agency actions and determine whether they are consistent with state and federal antitrust law; to create the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board, the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board, and the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the State Board of Optometry, the Ohio Optical Dispensers Board, the Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing Board, and the Board of Speech Language Pathology and

Audiology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Vision and Hearing Professionals Board; to abolish the Chemical Dependency Professionals Board, the Counselor, Social Worker, and Marriage and Family Therapist Board, and the State Board of Psychology and transfer those boards' duties to the State Behavioral Health Professionals Board; to abolish the Ohio Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board and the State Board of Orthotics, Prosthetics, and Pedorthics and transfer those boards' duties to the State Physical Health Services Board; to abolish the Ohio Board of Dietetics and transfer its duties to the State Medical Board; to abolish the Ohio Respiratory Care Board and transfer its duties to the State Board of Pharmacy and the State Medical Board; to make other changes regarding licensing and regulating certain health professionals; and to make an appropriation.

Transportation & Infrastructure

HB 614

PORT AUTHORITY MEETINGS (Patterson, J., Perales, R.)

To allow airport and port authorities to conduct meetings by video conference and teleconference.

Ways & Means

HB 612

DISASTER BUSINESS EXEMPTION (Ryan, S.)

To exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Finance

HJR 5

WATER SEWER BONDS (Lepore-Hagan, M., Smith, K.)

Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to permit the issuance of general obligation bonds to fund sewer and water capital improvements.

CONTINUED

SB 235

PROPERTY TAXES (Beagle, B., Coley, B.)

To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property.

CONTINUED (See separate story)

HB 67

MEDICAL GRANTS (Ramos, D.)

To create the Frances Lewandowski Memorial Medical Research Fund and the Medical University Research Reserve Fund to provide grants to public medical schools for research on terminal, chronic or currently incurable diseases, to require the General Assembly annually to appropriate for those grants an amount equal to not less than one-tenth of one percent of total prior year General Revenue Fund appropriations, and to make an appropriation.

CONTINUED

HB 492

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS (Rogers, J., Driehaus, D.)

To create the Supplemental State Capital Improvements Pilot Program funded by a temporary

transfer from the Budget Stabilization Fund and to make an appropriation.
CONTINUED

HB 583

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING (Becker, J.)

To remove any requirement under the Public Employees Collective Bargaining Law that public employees join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit public employers from requiring public employees to join or pay dues to any employee organization, to prohibit an employee organization from being required to represent public employees who are not members of the employee organization, and to make an appropriation.
RE-REFERRED (To Commerce & Labor)

HR 282

HIGHER EDUCATION (Howse, S., Ramos, D.)

To support efforts to ensure that students from Ohio have access to debt-free higher education at public colleges and universities.
CONTINUED

Insurance

SB 27

FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton, T.)

To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter.
CONTINUED-SUBSTITUTE

HB 275

VISION CARE (Schuring, K.)

Regarding limitations imposed by health insurers on

vision care services.
CONTINUED

HB 416

SELF INSURANCE (Schuring, K.)
To enable state colleges and universities to
establish joint self-insurance pools.
CONTINUED

Finance: Health & Human Services Sub.

SB 319

DRUG REGULATIONS (Eklund, J.)
To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of
drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision
of addiction services.

SB 332

INFANT MORTALITY (Jones, S., Tavares, C.)
To provide for the implementation of
recommendations made by the Commission on
Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to
administer by injection certain prescribed drugs.

State Government

SB 199

MILITARY FIREARMS (Uecker, J., Gardner, R.)
To specify that an active duty member of the U.S.
Armed Forces: (1) does not need a concealed
handgun license to carry a handgun concealed if the
member is carrying valid military identification and a
certificate indicating successful small arms
qualification; and (2) may be sold or furnished a
handgun if the member has received military or
equivalent small arms training.

SB 220

DEFERRED COMPENSATION (Hottinger, J.)
To authorize the Ohio Public Employees Deferred

Compensation Board and local governments to establish designated Roth account features and other tax-deferred or nontax-deferred features permitted for government deferred compensation plans.

HB 529

FIREARMS (Retherford, W., Hagan, C.)

To provide for firearms training for tactical medical professionals; to permit such a professional who has received that training or comparable training and who is authorized to carry firearms by the law enforcement agency the professional is serving to carry firearms while on duty in the same manner, to the same extent, in the same areas, and subject to the same potential for civil and criminal liability as a law enforcement officer of the agency; and to grant such a professional, while on duty in that capacity, the same right to carry a concealed handgun in this state as a person who was issued a concealed handgun license.

HB 551

FOOD INSPECTIONS (Hill, B.)

To require the Director of Agriculture and the Director of Health to adopt rules governing reviews of registered sanitarians and sanitarians-in-training who conduct inspections of retail food establishments and food service operations.

Public Utilities

HB 554

RENEWABLE ENERGY (Amstutz, R.)

To revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency savings, and peak demand reduction and to revise provisions governing which customers can opt out of related programs.

SCHEDULED BUT NOT HEARD (See separate story)

Health & Aging

SB 165

LIFE-SUSTAINING TREATMENT (Lehner, P.)

To establish procedures for the use of medical orders for life-sustaining treatment and to make changes to the laws governing DNR identification and orders.

CONTINUED

SB 245

MALNUTRITION (Manning, G.)

To create the Malnutrition Prevention Commission to study malnutrition among older adults.

CONTINUED

SB 291

AWARENESS MONTH (Yuko, K.)

To designate September as "Pain Awareness Month."

REPORTED

HB 580

MONTH DESIGNATION (Johnson, T., Huffman, S.)

To designate the month of November as "One Health Awareness Month."

REPORTED

HB 603

PALLIATIVE CARE (LaTourette, S.)

To create the Palliative Care and Quality of Life Interdisciplinary Council, to establish the Palliative Care Consumer and Professional Information and Education Program, and to require health care facilities to identify patients and residents who could benefit from palliative care.

CONTINUED

HB 611

HOSPITAL AFTER-CARE (LaTourette, S.)

To provide for the designation of a lay person to provide after-care to a hospital inpatient and participate in discharge planning.

CONTINUED

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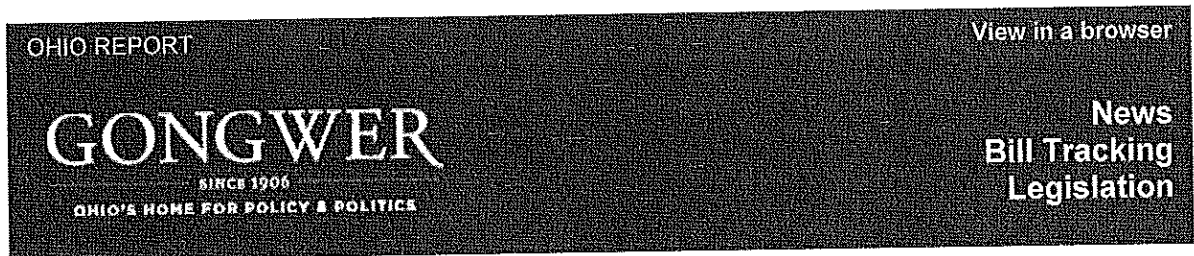
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Attachments: Nov22.htm; Nov22Senate.htm; 161122dayplan.htm;
Nov23Schedule.htm



OHIO REPORT TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22

Senate Hears Mixed Review Of Energy Freeze Bill; Early December Committee Vote Eyed

Senate Panel Takes Up Ignition Interlock Device Measure

Proponents Urge Senate Support For Ohio EPA Updates

Committee Chair Raises Concerns About Insurance Bill

Medical Board Closes Investigation Into Dayton Abortion Clinic

Buckeye Institute Touts Charity Care; OSMA Launches Opioid Campaign; Innovation Ohio Eyes Food Insecurity

Farmers Union Prices Thanksgiving Dinner; AG Warns On Holiday Shopping Scams; DSW Sales Up

Governor's Appointment

Attorney General's Opinion

Supplemental Agency Calendar

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Senate Committee Hearings

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Volume #85, Report #225 -- Tuesday, November 22, 2016
Senate Hears Mixed Review Of Energy Freeze Bill; Early December Committee Vote Eyed

The state's top consumer utility advocate told a Senate panel Tuesday the renewable energy and energy efficiency benchmarks in a Senate bill are "reasonable."

But Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston said in testimony before the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee that he still has plenty of concerns with the proposal (SB 320).

Mr. Weston's was one of a trio of witnesses on both sides of the issue to appear before the committee during the bill's third hearing.

Questioned by Chairman Sen. Troy Balderson (R-Zanesville), Mr. Weston said that a 12.5% renewable energy benchmark for 2029 and beyond was reasonable in his view. As for the 17% benchmark for energy efficiency - which was reduced from the bill's earlier 22% - Mr. Weston said that number is on the lower end of "something I could accept as reasonable."

Sen. Balderson said in an interview he has no intention of holding a vote on the issue next week considering the holiday and the short notice interested parties received about Tuesday's hearing.

"We'll have some more hearings," Sen. Balderson said. "We want to give everyone adequate time. We'd like to have at least something by the first of December that we can vote on."

Several amendments have been drafted behind the scenes, although it's unclear if and when they'll be introduced for consideration. Sponsor Sen. Bill Seitz said he is unsure whether he will introduce any of his prepared amendments next week.

"I think there are a couple things we could tweak along the way, but, yes, I do feel good about it," Sen. Balderson said of the status of the bill. "And I know one amendment might be the mercantile opt out. It's in there right now (to start) in 2019, but 2017 was talked about last week in committee."

Outlining his concerns with the bill, Mr. Weston urged the committee to: preclude utilities from charging consumers for shared savings that are not a direct result of utility programs or that are unrelated to electricity sales; add language to protect consumers from bearing any cost associated with the mercantile opt-out program, and; prohibit consideration of renewables and energy efficiency in cases other than those intended for implementing the energy standards.

Responding to a question from Sen. Seitz, Mr. Weston floated the idea of a 3% cost cap for consumers. He also argued for requiring utilities to use competitive bidding when retaining providers or vendors when implementing their energy efficiency programs.

He further advised against any attempts to add language permitting electricity rate hikes if a utility's financial integrity is at risk.

"If such a change in the law is to be considered by the legislature, it should be done in a standalone bill with a full public hearing process and not rushed in this limited post-election session," Mr. Weston said.

Brakey Energy President Matt Brakey was the only proponent to testify during this week's hearing. He said the company fully supports the mercantile customer opt-out and would even urge the provision to be enacted sooner.

The bill as written would expand opt-out eligibility to businesses consuming more than 700,000 kilowatt hours per year - a move opponents say is premature considering the existing opt-out doesn't begin until 2017. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 17, 2016)

Even if the opt-out timeline isn't advanced, Mr. Brakey said, lawmakers should act fast in reaching a resolution before the ongoing freeze on energy standards expires at year's end.

"Because of the cycle time of the electric distribution utilities, delaying commonsense reforms will require the utilities to launch another expensive, multi-year installment toward compliance that will be passed onto Ohio's residential, commercial, industrial, and institutional customers," he said. "This is an outcome Ohioans cannot afford."

Environmental Law and Policy Center Senior Attorney Rob Kelter said the group opposes the bill's removal of compliance mechanisms for the first three years.

Opponents argue such language waters down the state's approach to renewables while proponents say it buys the state more time pending the legal resolution of the Clean Power Plan.

"The utilities recover both their costs and lost revenues related to energy efficiency so they are held harmless. On top of that they share the savings they generate for customers through shared savings mechanisms that all the utilities have achieved," Mr. Kelter said. "Some utilities have earned bonuses as high as \$20 million per year from running the programs. Making the standards voluntary sends the wrong signal regarding the importance of the standards and the need to meet the targets."

Mr. Kelter said the group also opposes both the lowering of the energy efficiency benchmark to 17% and the potential expansion of the mercantile opt-out program.

"Somehow, listening to the testimony and comments from proponents, one would think

Ohio is about to become California," Mr. Kelter said. "We are only looking for a very reasonable and doable level of efficiency and renewables that will benefit all Ohioans through both cleaner air and lower bills."

Alan Rosenfield submitted written opponent testimony on behalf of the League of Women Voters of Ohio, saying that the bill "continues bad policy by refusing to require a reasonable percentage of energy come from renewable sources."

"We reject the idea that SB320 lifts the two-year freeze imposed on renewable energy requirements," he wrote. "We urge that the current language of O.R.C. 4928-64 be retained and oppose any changes in that section that are included in SB320."

Senate Panel Takes Up Ignition Interlock Device Measure

First-time OVI offenders could have the opportunity to be granted unlimited driving privileges, with a catch, under a House bill reviewed in the Senate Tuesday.

The legislation (HB 388) sponsored by Rep. Gary Scherer (R-Circleville) would allow first-time offenders to petition the court for unlimited driving privileges with an Ignition Interlock Device during the offender's driver's license suspension.

"Our current laws contain an ineffective system of limited driving privileges. The offender first has a period of 15 days where he or she cannot drive at all. Then he or she can obtain limited driving privileges from the judge and may be granted access to any occupational, educational, vocational, or medical destinations as well as commercial licensing exams and court mandated appearances during certain times of the day," he told members of the Senate Insurance Committee Tuesday.

"Second-time offenders are required to use a certified Ignition Interlock Device (IID) if restricted driving has been permitted. Second time offenders are also required to employ yellow license plates on their vehicles. The second offense provisions all too often give rise to plea bargains to reduce the overall punishment."

The legislation, dubbed "Annie's Law," also lengthens the first-time minimum suspension from six months to 12 months. However, that suspension can be cut in half if a court grants a request to use an IID.

In addition, the measure would also require a first-time offender to obtain a restricted license indicating the use of an IID is required.

"It is important to note that this language is permissive: the offender is not required to request the use of the device, nor is the judge required to allow the use of the device. The IID petition can only be granted at the time of conviction, not at the time of the arraignment. There is no change to current law for the time from arrest to conviction," Rep. Scherer said.

Yet another provision of the bill would extend the look-back period for OVI offenses from six to 10 years.

Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) questioned the rationale behind that provision.

Rep. Scherer said it was requested by municipal court judges who believe the six-year window is not long enough.

In researching the legislation, Rep. Scherer told the panel that he voluntarily installed an IID in his own vehicle and sought to allay some of the misconceptions about the device, including the belief that an impaired driver could have a child blow into it to allow a vehicle to be started.

"It's not that simple to use," he said. "It does require a velocity of air going through the device, and a sustained velocity."

Chairman Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark) asked if the devices require a driver to do anything while operating a vehicle.

Rep. Scherer said that some do require a "rolling retest," which he was initially opposed to until he learned that 28 states with similar laws also mandate continued testing after the initial one to allow the vehicle to start.

"It is not a significant burden," he said. "You can always pull over to the side of the road to do it. I found that once I got used to it, I didn't need to pull over to do it."

The bill is named after Annie Rooney, who was killed by a drunken driver in 2013.

"The woman who hit Annie that fateful day had at least three misdemeanor charges of operating a vehicle while impaired filed against her. Since her death, Annie's family has worked with Mothers Against Drunk Driving and others in their cause to reduce the number of casualties to this horrible tragedy that occurs far too often," Rep. Scherer said.

The bill has been in the works for three years and currently has no known opposition, Rep. Scherer told the panel.

The measure cleared the House in an 84-5 vote in May. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 18, 2016)

Proponents Urge Senate Support For Ohio EPA Updates

More than a dozen proponents testified or submitted written testimony to the Senate Energy & Natural Resources Committee Tuesday on the governor's second OEPA-themed mid-biennium review bill.

During the bill's (SB 333) second hearing before the committee, lawmakers asked no questions as witnesses touted what they perceive as the bill's merits.

By and large, the group said the bill would install much-needed oversight over construction and demolition debris processing plants, refocus the mission of the Lake Erie Commission, and permit the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency's director to waive, transfer or revoke a 401 water quality certification. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 18, 2016)

Ohio Environmental Council Deputy Director Jack Shaner thanked the OEPA for participating in stakeholder meetings to gather feedback, saying the group is "confident that constructive compromise amendments will emerge."

That's because the group, which supports the bill, still has two areas of concern, Mr. Shaner said.

One provision worth revisiting, he said, is language that makes substantive changes to the makeup, authority and duties of the Lake Erie Commission. The bill's intent is to refocus the commission on helping the state meet its obligations under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

"It remains unclear how and to what extent the commission will ensure the...implementation of federal, state and local policies, programs and issues," Mr. Shaner said, recommending instead the language be changed so the commission can ensure coordination of "the funding, implementation, and monitoring" of those areas.

The group also requested a change in language enabling the OEPA director to grant 401 waivers, which proponents say will speed up projects already approved by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

OEC argues the waiver should be considered a final appealable order and should not be issued within 90 days of the agency's receipt of a complete application to allow actual agency review. Further, the group said the director should be required to include written justification for granting the waiver.

Cuyahoga County Solid Waste District Executive Director Diane Bickett testified the bill would address "serious problems" stemming from unregulated C&DD processing facilities in the county. She said such sites accumulate waste, becoming eyesores and ultimately shifting the burden of cleanup onto taxpayers.

"Most of the debris being accepted at this and other sham recycling facilities is debris resulting from the demolition of vacant homes," she said. "Demolition contractors cut costs by taking the debris to these sham recycling sites because they undercut the disposal fees that legitimate recyclers and landfills must charge in order to operate properly."

Ohio Environmental Health Association President Chad Brown said the group has spent a decade trying to address issues within the C&DD industry, but has made little progress without legislative action.

"There have been cases in all regions of the state where materials have been stockpiled without being processed properly, which has resulted in public nuisance situations," Mr. Brown said. "SB333 aims to address these nuisance conditions and provide the proper authority to OEPA and local health departments to address these issues."

Other witnesses praised different facets of the bill. Ohio Chamber of Commerce Director of Energy and Environmental Policy Zachary Frymier said the bill would improve business efficiency and surface water quality by strengthening the Certified Water Quality Professional Program.

Agreeing the bill would allow the state to address "bad actors" in the C&DD industry, he also praised the 401 waiver provision.

Ohio Rural Water Association Executive Director Kevin Strang singled out the bill's requirement that private water systems maintain an asset management plan. He said his association regularly assists systems with few resources that have overlooked or delayed maintenance and inventory planning.

"We have most recently provided extensive services to the villages of Botkins in Shelby County, Gratis in Preble County, and Spring Valley in Green County," he said. "In these three systems alone we project potential long term savings in excess of \$500,000 by reducing the need for premature repairs and replacement of system equipment."

Others testifying in support of the measure included Geoff Guss of Coschoton's McWane Ductile, professional engineer Alan Olsen, Great Lakes RCAP Director Debbie Martin, Hecla Water Association Inc. General Manager Tony Howard, and Materials Management Advisory Council Chairman Michael Dineen.

Submitting written proponent testimony were Port of Cleveland Vice President of External Affairs Jade Davis, Cuyahoga County Health Commissioner Terry Allan, Aqua Ohio Inc. and Aqua Ohio Wastewater Inc. President Ed Kolodziej, CSX Resident Vice President Rusty Orben, and a pair of Ohio residents.

Committee Chair Raises Concerns About Insurance Bill

The leader of a Senate committee on Tuesday questioned the efficacy of a measure designed to prevent certain uninsured drivers from collecting non-compensatory damages as a result of a traffic accident.

Sen. Jay Hottinger (R-Newark), chairman of the Senate Insurance Committee, said a recent study found that the measure (HB 279) would decrease the rate of uninsured drivers on Ohio's roadways by just 1.6%.

"Candidly, 1.6% is probably certainly inside the margin of error," he said.

Sponsoring Rep. Michael Henne (R-Clayton) said the legislation is about fairness. He likened the circumstances it addresses to a group that buys lottery tickets and hits a jackpot, then someone who did not contribute to the purchase asking for a share of the winnings.

"If everybody participates then we are protecting everybody," he said.

Sen. Hottinger also raised concerns about a letter from the Ohio Judicial Conference sent to Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton), a co-sponsor of the bill, that suggested the measure could violate both the Equal Protection and Due Process clauses of the Ohio Constitution.

But Rep. Henne said just one state's high court found a similar measure to be unconstitutional.

Under the bill, those who have a previous conviction of driving without insurance in the past seven years would be barred from seeking non-compensatory damages in the event of a traffic accident.

"They can still collect damages for their damaged property, medical bills, and loss of wages," Rep. Henne said.

Uninsured motorists would still be able to sue for non-economic damages in what Rep. Henne described as egregious situations, including crashes involving a four- or six-point offense, texting while driving and wrongful death. Drivers under the age of 18 will also be exempted from the law.

An estimated 15% of Ohio drivers are uninsured, above the national average of 13%, according to Rep. Henne.

The number of crashes involving uninsured drivers increased from 50,151 in 2011 to 95,000 in 2015, he said.

"Drivers who repeatedly choose not to participate in a system that is designed to protect all drivers, by failing to purchase the required minimum limits of liability protection, will no longer receive the full benefits of this system," he said. "If they are injured by another driver, HB279 affords the uninsured driver more than the amount of protection they offer their victims."

Sen. Hottinger was not alone in questioning the measure. Sen. Edna Brown (D-Toledo) said she supports the goal behind the bill, but does not believe it will accomplish "a great deal."

"I would like to see a bill where we come forth with some method by which we use some other stick," she said.

Adding that there are many Ohioans who cannot afford liability insurance and lack access to public transportation, the Democrat said, "We need something else. We need to look at the possibility that there may be extenuating circumstances."

Rep. Henne replied by saying that if someone does not have the financial means to obtain liability insurance, they don't have the financial means to drive a vehicle.

"Should we allow people to run through red lights if they are late for work?" he asked.

The legislation passed the House in May on a largely party-line vote of 62-35, with Reps. Jonathan Dever (R-Cincinnati) and Louis Terhar (R-Cincinnati) voting with the Democrats on opposition. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 25, 2016)

Medical Board Closes Investigation Into Dayton Abortion Clinic

Anti-abortion groups on Tuesday called for further government action against a Dayton-area clinic following the State Medical Board of Ohio's closure of a case involving the facility.

Ohio Right to Life and Dayton Right to Life urged the board to either disclose the investigative record or reopen the probe into Women's Med Center in Kettering regarding a June incident in which a patient received an abortion despite being unable to consent due to a drug overdose.

Dayton Right to Life filed complaints with the board earlier this year after an incident report from the Ohio Department of Health. The patient had taken a number of drugs the day of the scheduled abortion and was unable to walk on her own or keep her eyes open, according to the report. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, August 4, 2016)

Paul Coudron, executive director of Dayton Right to Life, said he received a notice from the Medical Board that the cases against the doctors at the facility had been closed with no action taken.

"The women of Dayton deserve to know why no action, not even a reprimand, has been taken by this institution," he said at a Columbus news conference.

Mr. Coudron and Devin Scribner, executive director of Ohio Right to Life, said they want the board either to release the record of their investigation or to reopen the case.

"Today we're here to call for action from the State Medical Board," Mr. Scribner said. "Case closed is not good enough for us."

Katherine Franklin, spokeswoman for Ohio Right to Life, said the issue is one of informed consent and should be of concern for Ohioans regardless of their attitudes toward abortion.

"This is much more a question of ethics in medicine more than it is politics," she said. "Pro-choice and pro-life advocates should be demanding action on this case, because it gets to the heart of a woman's right to say no and control her own bodily autonomy."

Michael Gonidakis, the president of Ohio Right to Life, serves as president of the State Medical Board but said he would recuse himself in the case. The investigation was closed by board staff and never required a hearing before the board.

Tessie Pollock, a spokeswoman for the board, said the details of complaints and investigations are confidential.

"When we receive complaints about informed consent, we investigate fully, as we do with all complaints against licensees," she said in an email. "Informed consent is an essential part of a physician's standard of care; failure to obtain informed consent is a failure to meet the minimal standard of care required of Ohio licensed physicians."

Investigative staff at the board have access to medical records, interviews with providers, patients, complainants and experts, and can subpoena documents, she said.

Kellie Copeland, executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Ohio, said the case has been reviewed and closed.

"When this case opened, the Ohio Department of Health investigated and asked the provider to rewrite their policy, which they did," she said in a statement. "Both the health department and the State Medical Board have looked into this case, and neither have decided additional action is necessary. Case closed."

"Women in Ohio need access to safe and legal abortion care from providers like Women's Med Center," she added. "They don't need political interference from Ohio Right to Life."

Buckeye Institute Touts Charity Care; OSMA Launches Opioid Campaign; Innovation Ohio Eyes Food Insecurity

The state could encourage more affordable health care by incentivizing doctors to perform charity care, according to a policy brief by the Buckeye Institute.

Bureaucratic hurdles in Medicaid create a situation in which doctors often refuse new patients, and limitations on voluntary charity care would help doctors and nurses reach more people, wrote Greg Lawson, Statehouse liaison for the Buckeye Institute.

The policy brief encouraged lawmakers to allow health care professionals to receive continuing education credits in exchange for providing charity care to underserved Ohioans. Other states, such as Florida, allow medical professionals to earn credit for up to a certain number of hours or a certain percentage of credit per renewal period. Bills have been introduced (HB 488 and SB 292) to deal with these issues.

"Healthcare providers must maintain a requisite number of CE credits to practice in Ohio, and allowing some of those credits to be earned through charity care will increase the supply of quality treatment available to the poor," Mr. Lawson wrote.

Other possible changes that would improve access to charity care include broadening immunity provisions that protect charity care providers from malpractice lawsuits, the brief said, and relaxing regulatory requirements on licensed nurses. A bill (HB 216) to increase the autonomy of advanced practice registered nurses has cleared the House and is currently before a Senate committee.

"These are examples of the kind of reforms that could be pursued as policymakers devise ways to extend access to more affordable healthcare to our neediest patients and communities," Mr. Lawson wrote.

OSMA Opioid Campaign: The Ohio State Medical Association has launched a campaign aimed at fighting the problem of misuse and abuse of opioid painkillers.

The campaign, called BeSmart, includes posters and prescription pads for doctors and prescribers to use that raise awareness of information about the potentially addictive and dangerous drugs.

The materials include links and numbers for drug-related resources and advice for people who are prescribed opioids, people who are prescribed non-opioid treatments, and for talking to children about drug abuse.

Food Insecurity Report: An investment of \$16 million in the Ohio State Extension nutrition education programs could lift 24,000 Ohioans out of food insecurity, according to a report from the Innovation Ohio Education Fund.

The report looked at a number of potential policy solutions for dealing with the state's high rate of food insecurity, including improving the nutrition education programs, expanding the number of counties with SNAP eligibility waivers, reforming the state earned income tax credit and investing in job creation programs.

It found the education funding to be highly effective, while grading it a medium for efficiency and political feasibility.

"Based on the above analysis, I recommend that the state of Ohio expand its nutrition education program and expand the number of counties with SNAP eligibility waivers," author Rob Moore wrote. "EITC reforms and job programs, while potentially valuable for other reasons, are unlikely to significantly decrease food insecurity in the state without large, expensive investments."

"A state-funded SNAP-Ed program funded at \$16 million (a modest 0.6% increase in higher education spending for Ohio and one tenth the size of an EITC expansion) would lead to a projected reduction in food insecurity that would lift 24,000 Ohioans out of food insecurity," he added.

Farmers Union Prices Thanksgiving Dinner; AG Warns On Holiday Shopping Scams; DSW Sales Up

Farmers will see less than 20% of consumer dollars spent on popular holiday menu items this year, according to an annual report.

The Thanksgiving edition of the National Farmers Union Farmer's Share publication found that farmers receive 19.4 cents of every food dollar spent on 15 common holiday foods. Most of the cost of traditional fare comes from marketing, processing, wholesaling, distribution and retailing.

Throughout the year, research has found farmers take in a little more than 17 cents for every food dollar consumers spend, NFU said.

"It's important to understand the difference between the price consumers pay for food at the grocery store or restaurant and the commodity prices farmers are paid for their products, NFU President Roger Johnson said in a statement.

"Just recently, food costs started to drop, but farm and ranch families have been plagued by low commodity prices for nearly three years," he said. "Comparatively, the costs associated with the rest of the supply chain have a more pronounced effect on consumers' food prices."

Turkey growers receive about 89 cents per pound retailing at \$1.59, while wheat farmers averaged four cents on a dozen dinner rolls that retail for \$3.29 and dairy producers received \$1.44 for the average \$4.49 gallon of fat free milk, the report shows.

Holiday Shopping: The Better Business Bureau and Attorney General Mike DeWine are working to inform consumers about how to keep themselves and their wallets safe as the holiday shopping season officially kicks off this week.

The AG's office released a list of tips for the estimated 137.4 million shoppers expected to take to stores over the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.

It includes recommendations to make plans before getting to stores, diligently reading fine print in ads and on "free" offers, and monitor bank accounts for any fraudulent charges.

"We encourage consumers to take some simple steps to protect themselves," Attorney General DeWine said. "Whether they're shopping online or in stores, we encourage people to take their time, understand the details, and ask for help if they need it. Awareness can go a long way in preventing problems."

BBB, meanwhile, has launched a new #AdTruth campaign to highlight common schemes companies use to lure in business and inform shoppers about how to truly find the best deals.

As more purchasing moves to the internet, BBB is also providing information about how to determine if a website or advertising emails are credible.

DSW: Third-quarter sales increased 4.7% to \$697 million compared to the same period last year, when sales decreased 2%, the company reported.

The Columbus-based footwear and accessories retailer also reported net income of \$39 million, or \$0.47 per diluted share. The total includes pre-tax charges from the acquisition of Ebuys, which is another footwear retailer.

"This quarter reflects the first step in our return to year-over-year earnings growth," CEO Roger Rawlins said "After four consecutive declines, we reported a 16% increase in Adjusted Earnings Per Share this quarter."

"Tighter inventory management drove improvements in gross margin which, combined with effective expense management, resulted in an increase in net income," he continued. "We've reduced clearance markdowns and we are positioned to generate more profitable sales in the holiday season."

Governor's Appointment

Northeast Ohio Medical University Board of Trustees: E. Douglas Beach of Northfield (Summit Co.) for a term beginning Nov. 22 and ending Sept. 21, 2024.

Attorney General's Opinion

No. 2016-037. Requested by Athens County Prosecuting Attorney Keller J. Blackburn.
SYLLABUS:

1. A secret service officer appointed pursuant to R.C. 309.07 may serve as a member of a board of township trustees, provided that in his capacity as a township trustee he refrains from participating in any discussions, deliberations, negotiations, or votes under R.C. 309.09(B) to retain legal counsel other than the prosecuting attorney to advise or represent the township, and in his capacity as a secret service officer he shall not be permitted or required to conduct any criminal investigatory activities or functions in connection with criminal charges that may be brought by the prosecuting attorney or other prosecuting authority against officers or employees of the township.

2. A legal secretary appointed pursuant to R.C. 309.06 may serve as a member of a board of township trustees, provided that in her capacity as a township trustee she refrains from participating in any discussions, deliberations, negotiations, or votes under R.C. 309.09(B) to retain legal counsel other than the prosecuting attorney to advise or represent the township.

Supplemental Agency Calendar **Tuesday, November 29**

Power Siting Board, Rm. 11B, 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, 3:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 30

Aerospace & Aviation Technology Committee, Rm. 122, Statehouse, Columbus, 9:30 a.m.

Public Utilities Commission of Ohio, 180 E. Broad St., 11th Fl., Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Monday, November 28

Auditor of State Dave Yost media availability on open enrollment, Auditor of State Ceremonial Office, Statehouse, Columbus, 2 p.m.

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Senate Activity for Tuesday, November 22, 2016

INTRODUCED

SB 369  **ROAD NAMING (Patton, T., Manning, G.)** To designate a portion of Interstate Route 90 in Cuyahoga County as the "Patrol Trooper Kenneth Velez Memorial Highway." Am. 5534.46

SB 370  **LICENSE PLATE (Patton, T.)** To create the "University of Notre Dame" license plate. Am. 4501.21 and to enact section 4503.514

SB 371  **COUNTY PROSECUTORS (Thomas, C.)** To prohibit prosecuting attorneys of counties with a population of 400,001 or more from engaging in the private practice of law. Am. 309.02 and 325.11

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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, November 23

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

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Legislative Committee Schedules beginning 11/23/2016

Monday, November 28

House Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Amstutz, R., 466-1474), Rm. 119, 10:30 a.m.
Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 2 p.m.

- SB 136** **SCHOOL SECLUSION** (Tavares, C.) To prohibit the use of seclusion on students in public schools. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- SB 346** **SCHOOL YEAR** (Manning, G.) To generally require public and chartered nonpublic schools to open for instruction after Labor Day. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 89** **MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM** (DeVitis, T.) Regarding the Medicaid School Program. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 383** **FINANCIAL LITERACY** (Hagan, C., McColley, R.) To require one-half unit of economic and financial literacy in the high school social studies curriculum, to require the Chancellor of Higher Education to prepare an informed student document for each state institution of higher education, to require the State Board of Education to include information on the informed student document in the standards and model curricula it creates for financial literacy and entrepreneurship, and to entitle the act the "Informed Student Document Act." (2nd Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 85** **ABUSE PREVENTION** (Ramos, D., Hagan, C.) With respect to age-appropriate student instruction in child sexual abuse and sexual violence prevention and in-service staff training in child sexual abuse prevention. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Tuesday, November 29

House State Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Maag, R., 644-6023), Rm. 113, 9 a.m.

- SB 227** **ATTORNEY GENERAL** (Bacon, K.) To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)
House Agriculture & Rural Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Hill, B., 644-6014), Rm. 116, 9 a.m.
- HR 214** **PHOSPHORUS AGREEMENT** (Sheehy, M., Fedor, T.) To encourage support for the agreement between Ontario, Michigan and Ohio regarding the reduction of phosphorus in the western basin of Lake Erie. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 566** **NURSERY STOCK** (Ramos, D.) To prohibit the labeling and advertising of nursery stock as pollinator beneficial under specified conditions (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
House Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Brenner, A., 466-6711), Rm. 017, 9 a.m.
- HB 498** **STUDENT EXPULSIONS** (Kunze, S.) With respect to the expulsion of a student from a school district, community school, or STEM school for communicating a threat of violence to occur on school grounds. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 372 **EDUCATIONAL SERVICES (Phillips, D.)** To require city, exempted village, and local school districts to employ, for each 1,000 students, at least five full-time equivalent educational service personnel in specified areas. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
House Insurance (Committee Record) (Chr. Brinkman, T., 644-6886), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

SB 27 **FIREFIGHTER CANCER (Patton, T.)** To provide that a firefighter who is disabled as a result of specified types of cancer is presumed for purposes of the laws governing workers' compensation and the Ohio Police and Fire Pension Fund to have incurred the cancer while performing official duties as a firefighter. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)

HB 394 **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Sears, B.)** To temporarily change the taxable wage base under Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law, to remove dependency classes for unemployment compensation benefit eligibility, to temporarily freeze automatic increases for weekly unemployment compensation benefit amounts, to reduce the number of weeks for which an individual may receive unemployment compensation benefits, to abolish the Unemployment Compensation Advisory Council, and to make other changes to Ohio's Unemployment Compensation Law. (6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)

House Financial Institutions, Housing & Urban Development (Committee Record) (Chr. Dever, J., 466-8120), Rm. 122, 9 a.m.

HB 593 **CROWDFUNDING (Arndt, S.)** To permit intrastate equity crowdfunding under certain circumstances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 598 **LOAN ACT (Terhar, L.)** To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

HB 616 **BANKING LAW (Amstutz, R.)** For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio. (1st Hearing-Proponent-Possible substitute)

Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of S. Craig Beam, Ohio Thoroughbred Race Fund Advisor Council; Kelly Cole, Southern Ohio Agricultural and Community Development Foundation; Cy Prettyman, Ohio Livestock Care Standards Board and Michael Frazier and Gregory Levens, Dangerous & Restricted Animals Advisory Board

SB 151 **DOGS LAW (Beagle, B.)** To revise provisions of the Dogs Law governing nuisance, dangerous, and vicious dogs, to revise enforcement of that Law, and to establish a notification process regarding complaints of certain violations of that Law. (4th Hearing-Opponent)

SB 224 **AGRICULTURE LAWS (Brown, E.)** To revise the application and enforcement of the law governing operation and management plans, and to require certain animal feeding facilities to annually report the amount of manure that is applied by or for the facilities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 271 **POLICE ANIMALS (Gentile, L.)** To authorize a law enforcement officer to purchase a police dog or horse for fair market value when the officer retires in good standing from a law enforcement agency and certain conditions are met, and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Anielski, M., 644-6041), Rm. 018, 9:30 a.m.

- HB 561** **PARK COMMISSIONERS (Boccheri, J., Clyde, K.)** To require boards of county commissioners to appoint additional park board commissioners and allow for public comment during appointment process. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 562** **MAIL DELIVERY (Hambley, S., Ryan, S.)** To authorize local governments and officers to deliver certain notices by ordinary mail and electronically instead of by certified mail. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 576** **PUBLIC RECORDS (Ryan, S.)** To exempt from the Public Records Act financial account numbers and identifying information in public records and to provide that taxpayer electronic mail address lists used by county treasurers to deliver tax bills are not public records. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Senate State & Local Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Uecker, J., 466-8082), North Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointment of Thomas Pascarella, Ohio Retirement Study Council

- SB 347** **PRIMARY ELECTIONS (LaRose, F.)** To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 322** **POLICE TRAINING (Hite, C.)** To require the Ohio peace officer training commission to develop and conduct a chief of police training course for newly appointed chiefs of police appointed on or after January 1, 2017, and to require newly appointed chiefs of police of villages, cities, and townships to attend the training course within six months of appointment as a chief of police. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 306** **DAY DESIGNATION (Yuko, K.)** To designate July 8 as "Harrison Dillard Day." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 440** **AWARENESS DAY (Anielski, M.)** To designate the Saturday before Thanksgiving as "Ohio Survivors of Suicide Loss Day." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 276** **CHIROPRACTORS (Schuring, K.)** To authorize chiropractors to engage in certain activities involving nutrition-related items and therapies, nonprescription drugs, and medical goods and devices. (2nd Hearing-proponent)
- HB 423** **MILITARY RECORDS (Perales, R.)** To specify that an order for active military service or other documentation regarding the call to order of an individual in the Armed Forces of the United States or the Ohio organized militia is not a public record. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 167** **LEGISLATIVE SERVICE COMMISSION (Sweeney, M.)** Regarding the term of a General Assembly member as a member of the Legislative Service Commission. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10 a.m.
- SB 331** **PET STORES (Peterson, B.)** To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 235 **PROPERTY TAXES** (Beagle, B., Coley, B.) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & substitute)
House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m.
Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.
Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.

SB 335 **AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES** (Patton, T.) To regulate non-bank automated teller machines. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 355 **LOAN ACT** (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Transportation & Infrastructure (Committee Record) (Chr. Boose, T., 466-9628), Rm. 018, 1 p.m. or after session

- **Agenda to be announced**

House Ways & Means (Committee Record) (Chr. Schaffer, T., 466-8100), Rm. 121, 1:30 p.m. or after session

HB 482 **PROPERTY TAXES** (Dever, J.) To change the calculation of the exempt value of improved property subject to a community reinvestment area exemption, to clarify the calculation of the exempt value of property subject to a brownfield remediation exemption, and to authorize the filing of a complaint with the county auditor challenging the assessed value of fully or partially exempt property. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 592 **INVESTMENT COMPANIES** (Merrin, D.) To subject small business investment companies to the commercial activity tax rather than the financial institutions tax. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 612 **DISASTER BUSINESS EXEMPTION** (Ryan, S.) To exempt out-of-state disaster businesses and qualifying out-of-state employees from certain taxes and laws with respect to disaster work on critical infrastructure performed in this state during a declared disaster (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 1:30 p.m. or after session

SB 206 **CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTS** (LaRose, F.) To require certain campaign committees and other entities to file campaign finance statements electronically and to require the Secretary of State to make the information in those statements available online. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 613 **SUNSET REVIEW LAW** (Amstutz, R.) To revise and renew the Sunset Review Law, to require that a Sunset Review Committee be convened to function during each oddnumbered General Assembly, and to declare an emergency. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Possible substitute)

HB 619 **STATE PROPERTY CONVEYANCES** (Rezabek, J.) To authorize the conveyance of, and the granting of perpetual easements to, state-owned real property. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)

- SB 273** **CORPORATE GOVERNANCE (Bacon, K.)** To enact the Corporate Governance Annual Disclosure Act. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- SB 329** **SUNSET REVIEW (Jordan, K., Faber, K.)** To require standing committees of the General Assembly to establish a schedule for the periodic review and sunset of state departments that are currently in the Governor's cabinet. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 591** **SPECIAL ELECTIONS (Pelanda, D.)** To eliminate the requirement of holding a special election to fill a vacancy in a party nomination for the office of representative to Congress under certain circumstances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- HB 539** **NEW AMERICANS (Boyce, K.)** To create the office for New Americans. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 536** **STATEHOUSE VIDEO (Fedor, T.)** To require the Ohio Government Telecommunications Service to broadcast live, with video and audio content, all General Assembly committee meetings and to name this act the Wire the Statehouse Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 192** **VOTING RIGHTS ACT (Clyde, K., Reece, A.)** Commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 206** **CONFEDERATE FLAG (Sykes, E., Reece, A.)** To urge the powers of the governments that continue to make issuances containing the confederate flag to discontinue this practice, to urge the powers of the governments that fly the confederate flag or any flag containing imagery of the confederate flag on public property to remove those flags in question, to urge the powers of governments that have official state flags that contain imagery derived from the confederate flag to commence in the process of redesigning the official state flag immediately, to urge South Carolina's General Assembly to direct removal of the confederate flag from state property and to urge Ohio retailers to remove from inventory any confederate flag merchandise. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 179** **VOTER REGISTRATION (Stinziano, M., Sykes, E.)** To require that eligible persons in the database of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles be automatically registered to vote or have their registrations updated automatically, as applicable, unless those persons decline to be registered or to update their registrations. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
House Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. Young, R., 644-6074), Rm. 122, 2 p.m. or after session
- HB 601** **MICROBUSINESS (Pelanda, D.)** To create a statutory definition of "microbusiness." (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 574** **USED TIRES (Sprague, R., DeVitis, T.)** To prohibit the installation of unsafe used tires on certain motor vehicles. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)
- Senate Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Oelslager, S., 466-0626), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m. or after session
- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments available at <http://www.gongwer-oh.com/public/130/finconfirm.pdf>
- HB 435** **STATE FINANCING (McClain, J.)** To authorize the Treasurer of State to issue revenue obligations of the state for the purpose of making loans to qualifying public

entities for their acquisition of permanent improvements through the Treasurer of State's purchase of public obligations of those qualifying entities. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 230 **ACADEMIC DISTRESS COMMISSIONS** (Schiavoni, J.) With regard to the operation of academic distress commissions and to modify the earmarked funding for the establishment of academic distress commissions. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 384 **HIGHER EDUCATION AUDITS** (Schaffer, T., Duffey, M.) To specify that state institutions of higher education may be subject to performance audits conducted by the Auditor of State. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

SB 317 **BANKING LAWS** (Hughes, J., Coley, B.) For the purpose of enacting a new banking law for the State of Ohio. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Senate Health & Human Services (Committee Record) (Chr. Jones, S., 466-9737), North Hearing Rm., 3 p.m. or after session

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Stephanie Loucka, Director of the Department of Aging; Billy Anderson, Jr., Ashok Das, Michael Ginder and Kumar Subramanian, D.D.S., State Dental Board; Raymond Mancini, John Patton, III, James Armile and John Stainbrook, Ohio Athletic Commission; Michael Aquillo, Ohio Respiratory Care Board; Michael Pratt, Hearing Aid Dealers and Fitters Licensing Board; Ronan Factora, State Medical Board; Paul Schoonover, Chemical Dependency Professionals Board; Christopher Taylor, Ohio Board of Dietetics; Fred Weaver, Kilee Yarosh, Timothy Bechtold, State Board of Pharmacy; Jason Dapore, Hollie Kozak, Chad Miller and Jennifer Wissinger, Occupational Therapy, Physical Therapy, and Athletic Trainers Board.

HB 216 **NURSES** (Pelanda, D.) To revise the law governing advanced practice registered nurses. (2nd Hearing-Proponent-Possible amendments)

HB 285 **PRESCRIPTION REFILLS** (Sprague, R.) To authorize pharmacists to dispense multiple refills of a prescription simultaneously under certain circumstances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

HB 470 **PALLIATIVE CARE FACILITIES** (Schuring, K.) Regarding palliative care facilities. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 42 **OUTPATIENT TREATMENT** (Beagle, B.) Regarding minors and outpatient mental health treatment. (5th Hearing-All testimony)

SB 314 **HOSPITAL CARE** (Lehner, P.) To provide for the designation of a lay person to provide after-care to a hospital inpatient and participate in discharge planning. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

HB 290 **TERMINAL PATIENTS** (Sprague, R., Anielski, M.) To permit a physician to treat a terminally ill patient with a drug that is not approved by the United States Food and Drug Administration and permit a drug manufacturer to provide such a drug to the patient or physician. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

HB 505 **BIOLOGICAL PRODUCTS** (Huffman, S., Pelanda, D.) Regarding the regulation of biological products and the substitution of interchangeable biological products when dispensed by pharmacists. (3rd Hearing-Opponent & interested party-Possible amendments)

House Armed Services, Veterans Affairs & Public Safety (Committee Record) (Chr. Johnson, T., 466-2124), Rm. 017, 3:30 p.m.

HB 464

NATIONAL GUARD SCHOLARSHIPS (Terhar, L., Brinkman, T.) To specify that a National Guard scholarship recipient who fails to complete the recipient's term of enlistment in the National Guard due to enlistment, warrant, commission, or appointment in the United States armed forces is not liable for repayment of the scholarship. (3rd Hearing-Possible substitute & vote)

HB 105

MILITARY TRANSFERS (Craig, H., Perales, R.) To permit persons who quit work to accompany the person's spouse on a military transfer to be eligible for unemployment compensation benefits. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

House Judiciary (Committee Record) (Chr. Butler, J., 644-6008), Rm. 116, 3:30 p.m.

SB 284

EXPUNGEMENT (Obhof, L.) To provide that a person who is found not guilty of an offense by a jury or a court or who is the defendant named in a dismissed complaint, indictment, or information may apply to the court for an order to expunge the person's official records in the case if the complaint, indictment, or information or finding of not guilty was the result of the applicant having been a victim of human trafficking and to authorize intervention in lieu of conviction for persons charged with committing an offense while a victim of compelling prostitution. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 257

REAL PROPERTY (Seitz, B., Skindell, M.) To create a presumption of validity of recorded real property instruments, reduce the time period for curing certain defects related to those instruments, and provide constructive notice for those instruments. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

HB 559

MEDICAL CLAIMS (Cupp, R.) To grant qualified civil immunity to certain medical providers who provide emergency medical services as a result of a disaster or mass hazard; to provide that certain communications made regarding an unanticipated outcome of medical care, the development or implementation of standards under federal laws, and an insurer's reimbursement policies on health care are inadmissible as evidence in a medical claim; to provide that medical bills itemizing charges are inadmissible as evidence and a payment for medical services accepted by a defendant from an insurer is admissible as evidence of the reasonableness of the charges; to specify the manner of sending a notice of intent to file a medical claim and provide a procedure for the discovery of other potential claims within a specified period after the filing of a medical claim; to provide that any loss of a chance of recovery or survival by itself is not an injury, death, or loss for which damages may be recovered; to provide civil immunity to certain medical providers regarding the discharge of a patient with a mental condition that threatens the safety of the patient or others; to require that governmental agencies that receive peer review committee records maintain their confidentiality; and to clarify the definition of "medical claim." (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

HB 602

DIGITAL ASSETS (Cupp, R., Rezabek, J.) To adopt the Revised Uniform Fiduciary Access to Digital Assets Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

SB 299

PERRY COUNTY COURTS (Hottinger, J.) To create the Perry County Municipal Court in New Lexington on January 1, 2017, to establish one full-time judgeship in that court, to provide for the nomination of the judge by petition only, to abolish the Perry County County Court on that date, to designate the Perry County Clerk of Courts as

the clerk of the Perry County Municipal Court, and to provide for the election for the Perry County Municipal Court of one full-time judge in 2017. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 581

LLC REGULATIONS (Dever, J., Reineke, B.) To permit and regulate managers, members, and interests of series limited liability companies. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 139

POST-CONVICTION RELIEF (Seitz, B., Williams, S.) To require the clerk of a common pleas court to retain a copy of the original trial file when a death penalty is imposed, to specify that there is no page limit on petitions for postconviction relief in death penalty cases or in appeals of denials of such relief, to modify the time for filing an amended postconviction relief petition in death penalty cases, to provide for depositions and subpoenas during discovery in postconviction relief proceedings in death penalty cases, and to require a judge hearing a postconviction relief proceeding in a death penalty case to state specifically in the findings of fact and conclusions of law why each claim was either denied or granted. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 106

PUBLIC INDECENCY (Schaffer, T.) To require an offender who knowingly commits the offense of public indecency under certain circumstances involving conduct likely to be viewed by minors to register as a Tier I sex offender/child-victim offender. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

HB 283

DNA TESTING (Fedor, T.) To require DNA testing for misdemeanor convictions of voyeurism, public indecency, procuring, soliciting, loitering to engage in soliciting, and prostitution. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

House Community & Family Advancement (Committee Record) (Chr. Ginter, T., 466-8022), Rm. 114, 4 p.m.

SB 30

FAMILY STABILITY (Tavares, C.) To create the Ohio Family Stability Commission. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)

HB 286

MARRIAGE (Vitale, N.) To provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not required to solemnize a marriage and a religious society is not required to allow any building or property of the religious society to be used to host a marriage ceremony if the marriage does not conform to the ordained or licensed minister's or religious society's sincerely held religious beliefs, to provide that an ordained or licensed minister or religious society is not subject to civil or criminal liability for such a denial, and to provide that the state and political subdivisions may not penalize or withhold benefits to an ordained or licensed minister or religious society for such a denial. (6th Hearing-All testimony)

HB 458

FOSTER CARE (Boyce, K., Rezabek, J.) To provide foster care maintenance payments for children in the care of a kinship caregiver without requiring the caregiver to be certified to provide foster care and to require, rather than permit, the creation of the statewide program of kinship care navigators. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 308

CHILD SUPPORT (Coley, B.) To amend the child support laws. (1st Hearing-Sponsor & proponent)

- HB 618** **RECORD EXPUNGEMENT** (Schuring, K.; Reece, A.) To provide for the expungement of official records related to the apprehension, arrest, criminal charging, or trial of a person based on mistaken identity. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
Senate Education (Committee Record) (Chr. Lehner, P., 466-4538), Finance Hearing Rm., 4 p.m.
- Paolo DeMaria, Superintendent of Public Instruction, will testify on the revised English language arts and math learning standards pursuant to 3301.079 (J).

HB 410 **TRUANCY** (Rezabek, J., Hayes, B.) With regard to habitual and chronic truancy and compulsory school attendance. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 89 **MEDICAID SCHOOL PROGRAM** (DeVitis, T.) Regarding the Medicaid School Program. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB 126 **OPEN ENROLLMENT** (Sawyer, T.) To terminate interdistrict open enrollment on that date with the possibility of renewal following the General Assembly's examination of the study's findings. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

Wednesday, November 30

House Public Utilities (Committee Record) (Chr. Dovilla, M., 466-4895), Rm. 121, 9 a.m.

HB 525 **911 CALLS** (Johnson, G.) To require multi-line telephone systems to have a default configuration that permits users to directly initiate a call to 9-1-1 without dialing any additional digit or code. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 589 **UTILITY RESELLING** (Duffey, M.) To permit the Public Utilities Commission to adopt rules governing residential utility reselling. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 72 **PORT AUTHORITIES** (Conditt, M.) To authorize port authorities to create energy special improvement districts for the purpose of developing and implementing plans for special energy improvement projects and to alter the law governing such districts that are governed by a nonprofit corporation. (5th Hearing-Possible substitute)

HB 554 **RENEWABLE ENERGY** (Amstutz, R.) To revise the requirements for renewable energy, energy efficiency savings, and peak demand reduction and to revise provisions governing which customers can opt out of related programs. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

Senate Health & Human Services (Committee Record) (Chr. Jones, S., 466-9737), North Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- Agenda to be announced
Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 10 a.m.

SB 355 **LOAN ACT** (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)

Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 10:15 a.m.

- Ferzan Ahmed, State Board of Registration for Professional Engineers and Surveyors; Andrew Bainbridge, JD, Ski Tramway Board; Kristine Burdick and Rowland Giller, III, Ohio Real Estate Commission; James Gasior and Michael Peterson, Ohio Turnpike and Infrastructure Commission; Stephanie Green, Janet Orosz and Richard Zaleski, Ohio Fair Plan Underwriting Association Board of Governors; W. Craig Zimpher, State Employment Relations Board; Bill Dingus, Chris Kershner and Christopher Powell, Transportation Review

Advisory Council; J. Richard Lumpe, State Employment Relations Board; Ross McGregor, State Personnel Board of Review; Scott Murray, Board of Motor Vehicle Repair; Thomas Needles, Motor Vehicle Dealers Board; Gary Siciliano, Motor Vehicle Salvage Dealers Licensing Board and George Snyder, State Board of Emergency Medical, Fire, and Transportation Services

HB 341 TRANSPORTATION LAWS (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. (2nd Hearing-Opponent & interested party)

HB 532 REAL ESTATE SALES (Smith, R.) Relating to real estate brokers and salespersons. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 345 LICENSE PLATE (Jones, S.) To create the Conquer Childhood Cancer license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 359 LICENSE PLATE (Uecker, J.) To create the Down Syndrome Awareness license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 361 LICENSE PLATE (Thomas, C.) To create the "Triple Negative Breast Cancer Awareness" license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 363 LICENSE PLATE (Oelslager, S.) To create the "Buckeye Corvette" license plate. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 436 DUI SENTENCES (Cupp, R., Rogers, J.) To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 455 BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (2nd Hearing-All testimony)

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

Senate Criminal Justice (Committee Record) (Chr. Eklund, J., 644-7718), South Hearing Rm., 11:15 a.m.

- Confirmation hearing on governor's appointments of Larry Mincks, Sr. and Christopher Viland, Ohio Organized Crime Investigations Commission

HB 172 CRIMINAL RECORDS (Barnes, J.) To enact the Fair and Accurate Reporting of Criminal Records Law, to require certain business entities that publish criminal record information to ensure that the information is complete and accurate, to provide a procedure by which a subject of published criminal record information may have incomplete or inaccurate information corrected or removed from the publication, and to provide remedies for the failure of a business entity to remove or correct incomplete or inaccurate information. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 237 DRUG VOLUME (LaRose, F.) To provide that five milligrams or more of fentanyl or an amount equal to or exceeding one gram of a compound, mixture, preparation, or

substance that contains any amount of fentanyl and that is not in a final dosage form manufactured by an authorized manufacturer constitutes a bulk amount for purposes of the laws governing drug offenses, to revise the manner of determining sentence for certain violations of the offense of permitting drug abuse, and to add lisdexamfetamine to the list of schedule II controlled substances. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 162

DEATH SENTENCES (Seitz, B., Williams, S.) To provide that a person convicted of aggravated murder who shows that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense cannot be sentenced to death for the offense and to provide a mechanism for resentencing to a life sentence a person previously sentenced to death who proves that the person had a serious mental illness at the time of committing the offense. (7th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 195

SEXUAL CONDUCT (Hughes, J., Hottinger, J.) To prohibit a person from engaging in sexual conduct with an animal and related acts, to provide for the seizure and impoundment of an animal that is the subject of a violation, and to authorize a sentencing court to require an offender to undergo psychological evaluation or counseling. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

SB 265

CASINO OPERATORS (Seitz, B.) To specify that the criminal penalty related to casino operators and employees participating in casino gaming applies at their casino facility or an affiliated casino facility. (5th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 405

IMPORTUNING (Schaffer, T., Smith, K.) To amend the penalties for the offense of importuning. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 185

ARSON (Koehler, K.) To eliminate lack of the property owner's consent as an element of arson when the property is abandoned real property and to make the consent of the owner of abandoned real property an affirmative defense. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 521

PAROLE ELIGIBILITY (Manning, N.) To provide special parole eligibility dates for persons with an indefinite or life sentence imposed for an offense committed when the person was less than 18 years of age, to require the Parole Board to consider specified mitigating factors in those cases, and to require notice to the Ohio Public Defender and prosecuting attorney prior to the parole consideration hearing. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

HB 439

VOYEURISM (Anielski, M.) To include an impaired person as a victim of voyeurism and to include conduct involving an impaired person within the offenses of pandering obscenity involving a minor, pandering sexually oriented matter involving a minor, and illegal use of a minor in a nudity-oriented material or performance. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 316

SEXUAL IMPOSITION (Hughes, J.) To increase the penalty for sexual imposition when the offender previously has been convicted of or pleaded guilty to three or more violations of sexual imposition or other specified sex offenses. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

~~Canceled: House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.~~

- If needed

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.
House State Government (Committee Record) (Chr. Maag, R., 644-6023), Rm. 121, 2:30 p.m.

- SB 227** ATTORNEY GENERAL (Bacon, K.) To make various changes to the laws governing the duties and functions of the Attorney General. (2nd Hearing-Opponent-Possible amendment & vote)
- HB 577** LAME DUCK SESSIONS (Boose, T.) To prohibit the General Assembly from holding sessions after the general election in an even-numbered year. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HJR 7** BANKING FUNCTIONS (Sheehy, M., Ramos, D.) To urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to enact legislation that would reinstate the separation of commercial and investment banking function that was in effect under the Glass-Steagall Act. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 383** TRAIN CREWS (Sheehy, M., Lepore-Hagan, M.) To support the Federal Railroad Administration's proposed rule requiring trains operated in the United State to have at least a two-person crew. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 331** SAFETY BELTS (Phillips, D.) To require all passengers in automobiles to wear safety belts. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 344** CORPORATE BOARDS (Johnson, G., Boggs, K.) To urge equitable and diverse gender representation on the corporate boards of directors of companies based in Ohio. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 494** FIREARMS (Antonio, N., Boyd, J.) To require a court that issues a protection order to determine if the respondent is prohibited from carrying or possessing a firearm, to require a court to determine whether an offender who has been convicted of specified offenses is prohibited from carrying or possessing a firearm, and to require a respondent or offender who the court determines is prohibited from carrying or possessing a firearm to transfer all firearms in the person's possession to a law enforcement agency or a federally licensed firearms dealer. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 324** DAY DESIGNATION (Ramos, D.) To declare November 23rd as Fleet Admiral Ernest Joseph King Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 381** NUTRITION PROGRAMS (Ramos, D., Howse, S.) To require the Director of Job and Family Services to request a federal waiver of time limits for certain Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program recipients. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 332** REPLICA VEHICLE TITLES (Patterson, J.) To provide that when a certificate of title is issued for a motor vehicle, the owner may request that the certificate indicate that the motor vehicle is a replica vehicle. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 330** EQUAL PAY CERTIFICATE (Howse, S., Clyde, K.) To require a contractor or person submitting a bid or other proposal for a state contract or a business entity applying for a grant or other economic incentive from a state agency to obtain an equal pay certificate, to require state agencies and political subdivisions to establish a job evaluation system to identify and eliminate sex-based wage disparities among classes of employees, and to prohibit an employer from retaliating against an employee who discusses the employee's salary or wage rate with another employee. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 337** DAY DESIGNATION (Clyde, K.) To designate the fourth Tuesday of September as Ohio Voter Registration Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HR 56** EQUAL PAY DAY (Fedor, T.) To recognize April 14, 2015, as Equal Pay Day to encourage public awareness of the gender wage gap. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 329** DAY DESIGNATION (Howse, S., Boyd, J.) To designate February 23 as Louis Stokes Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 519** LSC DUTIES (Howse, S.) To require the Director of the Legislative Service Commission to prepare a human impact statement concerning a bill or resolution that proposes to amend the law governing criminal justice. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HCR 23** DAY DESIGNATION (Howse, S.) To designate June 15, 2015, as Karamu House Day. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- Senate Agriculture (Committee Record) (Chr. Hite, C., 466-8150), South Hearing Rm., 4:30 p.m.
- SB 271** POLICE ANIMALS (Gentile, L.) To authorize a law enforcement officer to purchase a police dog or horse for fair market value when the officer retires in good standing from a law enforcement agency and certain conditions are met, and to declare an emergency. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)

Thursday, December 1

Senate Financial Institutions (Committee Record) (Chr. Hughes, J., 466-5981), Finance Hearing Rm., 9 a.m.

- SB 355** LOAN ACT (Peterson, B.) To create the Ohio Consumer Installment Loan Act. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- Senate Transportation, Commerce & Labor (Committee Record) (Chr. LaRose, F., 466-4823), North Hearing Rm., 9:30 a.m.

- HB 341** TRANSPORTATION LAWS (Young, R., Sweeney, M.) To require the Public Utilities Commission to raise the existing statutorily designated towing and storage fees annually by the percentage increase in the consumer price index, to establish a \$35 fee for the retrieval of nonmedical personal items from a motor vehicle, to modify the civil penalties applicable to violations of the towing law, to modify the calculation of the value of an abandoned vehicle to which a towing service or storage facility seeks to take title, and to make other changes to the towing law. (3rd Hearing-Proponent & interested party-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 455** BOARDING SCHOOL ZONE (Patterson, J., Roegner, K.) To authorize a municipal corporation or township to establish a boarding school zone and a special speed limit within that zone. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 202** FRONT LICENSE PLATE (Thomas, C.) To specify that failure to display a license plate on the front of a motor vehicle that is required to display a license plate on the front and rear of the vehicle is a secondary traffic offense, to establish a maximum fine of \$25 for such an offense, to name this act the "DuBose Was A Beacon Act," and to amend the version of section 4503.21 of the Revised Code that is scheduled to take effect January 1, 2017, to continue the provisions of this act on and after that effective date. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

- HB 436** **DUI SENTENCES** (Cupp, R., Rogers, J.) To authorize a judge that grants limited driving privileges to a second-time OVI offender to order the termination of the mandatory immobilization order. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- HB 236** **PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS** (Landis, A., Blessing, L.) To require professional engineers to complete continuing professional development hours in professional ethics or rules relevant to engineering or surveying practices. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)
- SB 249** **ROOFING CONTRACTORS** (Patton, T.) To require commercial roofing contractors to have a license. (3rd Hearing-All testimony)
- House Finance (Committee Record) (Chr. Smith, R., 466-1366), Rm. 313, 10 a.m.
- SB 235** **PROPERTY TAXES** (Beagle, B., Coley, B.) To exempt from property tax the increased value of property on which industrial or commercial development is planned until the completion of new commercial or industrial facilities at the property. (4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments, substitute & vote)
- SB 331** **PET STORES** (Peterson, B.) To regulate the sale of dogs from pet stores and dog retailers and to require the Director of Agriculture to license pet stores. (2nd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- SB 319** **DRUG REGULATIONS** (Eklund, J.) To revise certain laws regarding the regulation of drugs, the practice of pharmacy, and the provision of addiction services. (2nd Hearing-Possible substitute)
- SB 332** **INFANT MORTALITY** (Jones, S., Tavares, C.) To provide for the implementation of recommendations made by the Commission on Infant Mortality and to authorize pharmacists to administer by injection certain prescribed drugs. (2nd Hearing-Possible substitute)

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 11 a.m.
Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

Tuesday, December 6

House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 11 a.m.
Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.


Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Wednesday, December 7

Senate Rules & Reference (Committee Record) (Chr. Faber, K., 466-7584), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

House Session (Chr. Rosenberger, C., 466-3357), House Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

Senate Session (Chr. Faber, K., 466-4900), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

NOTE: Click bill or resolution number links to see the legislative history compiled by Gongwer News Service. Click the  after a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill. Click "Full Text" if present to view the text of legislation on the Legislature's Web site.